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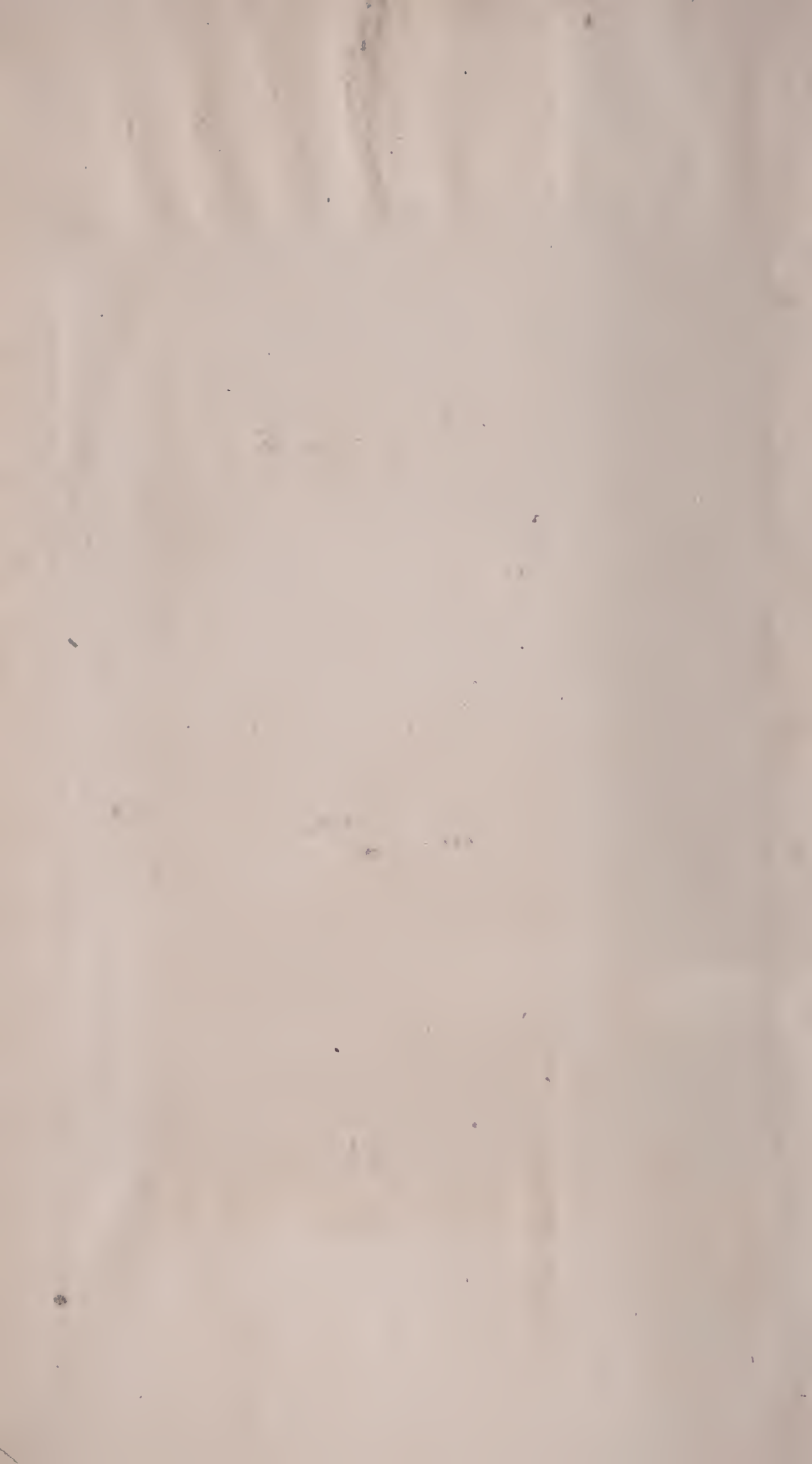
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Thomas Waterman.

Boston 21 March 1853



THE
History
OF
STIRLING,

From the earliest accounts to the present time.

~~~~~  
COMPILED FROM THE  
**Latest and best Authorities.**

~~~~~  
WITH A
Sketch of a Tour
TO CALLANDER AND THE
TROSACHS,
&c. &c.

3895
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**Second Edition.**  
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STIRLING:
Printed and Sold by M. Randall,
AND TO BE HAD OF ALL THE BOOKSELLERS.

1817.



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TO THE

Honorable 72

THE PROVOST,

MAGISTRATES, & TOWN COUNCIL

Of Stirling,

THIS VOLUME

IS MOST RESPECTFULLY

INSCRIBED

PREFACE.

AMONG the various literary pursuits of the present age, none has been more attended to than statistical or local history ; and indeed none seems better calculated for blending instruction with entertainment. Of the numberless places which have been selected as the subjects of essays of that kind, none seems better entitled to notice than STIRLING ; as no place is more remarkable, either for the beauty of its situation, and the richness of its surrounding scenery ; or for the figure which it makes in the history of our country, as the scene of many important civil and military transactions, while SCOTLAND formed a separate kingdom.

THE following performance makes no pretensions to the notice of the scholar or antiquarian ; as its plan did not admit of philological discussion, or abstruse historical research. The only object of the compiler has been to produce a plain and simple narrative, for the use of the less informed part of his countrymen, and of the numerous strangers who visit this part

of the united kingdom for the purposes of health or amusement; and if he has, in any degree, succeeded in attracting the attention of the former to those interesting objects in their neighbourhood, which merely because they are so, may have been hitherto neglected; or in assisting the recollection of the latter, after they shall have returned to their homes, he will reckon his labour abundantly repaid.

As STIRLING lies in the direct road from the southern part of the island to the TROSACHS, so much admired and resorted to of late; the publisher has added such a description of those stupendous curiosities, and of several other places worthy of attention, as he hopes will render the following publication particularly useful for assisting the inquiries and directing the steps of such travellers as may choose to follow the route therein described.

STIRLING,

16th June, 1812.

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THE
:
HISTORY
OF
STIRLING.

THE CASTLE.

THE Town of STIRLING is situated upon a hill ; which, gradually rising from the east, terminates abruptly in a steep rock, upon the extremity of which the Castle is built. This fortress is of great antiquity, though no certain account can be given of its first erection. Old chronicles inform us, that Agricola raised fortifications upon the rock on which it stands ; nor is it improbable that the Romans had a station there, in which they made the necessary preparations for the passage of the Forth, and the invasion of CALEDONIA. Their Military Causeway points directly to this town, from the south, a little westward of the church of LARBERT, and holds on in a straight course by Torwood-head, Draysl, Plean-muir, upper Bannock-burn, the villages of

MILLTOWN and ST. NINIANS, and the town of STIRLING. When it hath reached that town, in the environs of which every vestige of it is entirely lost amidst houses, inclosures, and well cultivated fields, it takes a direction westward to a ford called the Drip, near Craigforth. Whether it had fetched a compass around the hill on which the town is built, or had passed over it, and descended the sloping path called Ballengeich, upon the north side of the Castle, is uncertain; but half-a-mile westward of the Castle, and not far from a place called Kildean, very plain traces of it are discernable at a farm-house, which, together with its offices and yards, is situated upon the summit thereof. The peculiar form, and regular dimensions, together with the straight course, easily distinguish it from other causeways. Nearer to the Drip too, its foundations have been lately dugged up; the ford hath a firm and solid bottom, and during the summer season, little above two feet of water. There was no occasion for a bridge to transport the hardy sons of Rome, whom much more stately rivers did not intimidate from their darling project of subduing and plundering the world. From the Drip, the road turned northward by Keir to DUNBLANE, where it again makes its appearance, holding on to STRATHEARN.

THE military causeway, and other of the Roman works, are sometimes ascribed to the same people, at other times to Michael Scot of Balwirie, who is supposed to have performed many extraordinary exploits by his skill in magic. Many whimsical and ridiculous accounts of those monuments are still current ; but amongst them all, the Roman name is seldom ever mentioned : This naturally brings to our remembrance the prophecy of Lucan, which is literally fulfilled of the Roman works in SCOTLAND, as well as in many other parts of the globe.

————Tunc omne Latinum,
Fabula nomen erit ————

WE have but small glimmerings of light to direct our inquiries into the state and transactions of SCOTLAND during the Roman dominion, and for many ages after it. We cannot rely upon our own historians, except when they borrow from those of Rome ; nor are the accounts from these last any more than general and broken hints. We need not, however, hesitate a moment to affirm, that the natural, as well as the political condition of NORTH BRITAIN, was, in those remote ages, very different from what it hath been for a number of centuries past ; barren heaths, undrained marshes, and

thick forests, covered the greatest part of it. The Roman historians represent it as one of the most forbidding spots in all the globe, uncultivated and frightful all over. Herodian speaks as if the sun never shone upon it, his rays being obstructed by perpetual fogs, arising from the damp woods and unwholesome fens. Such accounts are no doubt exaggerated; for these authors sought in every thing to magnify the courage of their armies, by representing the difficulties and hardships they had to surmount in their conquests. They are not, however, so wide of the truth as may at first be imagined; for, in an island surrounded by immense oceans as this is, a clouded sky must naturally be a much more frequent object than upon the continent: and an uncultivated soil, where the marshes are undrained, and the woods so thick, as to obstruct the free current of air, must, of course, be damp and unwholesome.

THE remote antiquities of SCOTLAND, like those of most other nations, are involved in so great obscurity and confusion, that few accounts of events, which happened in it, prior to the twelfth century, can be depended upon; we learn, however, from those feeble glimmerings of light which we possess, and are fond to make use of, in the

absence of better, that the rock of STIRLING was strongly fortified by the Picts, amongst whom architecture, and sundry other useful arts, had made a considerable progress. As it lay near the extremities of their kingdom, the possession of it was the occasion of frequent contests betwixt them and their neighbours, the Scots and Northumbrians, each of whose dominions did for some time terminate near it. From those contests it is supposed to have derived its name; for *Stryveling*, which was the ancient name of the place, signifieth the *hill* or *rock of strife*, to which the monkish writers seem to allude, when they give it the latin name of *Mons dolorum*.

WHEN the Scots, under Kenneth II. overthrew the Pictish empire, towards the middle of the ninth century, they endeavored to obliterate every memorial of that people; they not only gave new names to provinces and towns, but with all the rage of barbarians, demolished many magnificent and useful edifices which had been reared up by them, and this fortress among the rest; it was, however, soon rebuilt, though upon an occasion not very honorable to the Scots.

Upon the death of Kenneth II. in 855.

his brother Donald V. mounted the throne of SCOTLAND. Historians differ widely in their accounts of the last named prince, some representing him as valiant and wise ; others, as utterly devoid of every good qualification, and much addicted to every vice. In the beginning of his reign, the kingdom was invaded by Osbrecht and Ella, two Northumbrian princes ; who, uniting their forces with the Cumbrian Britons, and a number of Picts, who, upon their expulsion from their native country, had taken refuge in ENGLAND, advanced to JEDBURGH, where Donald encountered them, and, after an obstinate and bloody engagement, obtained a compleat victory ; but, pushing the advantage he had gained no farther than to make himself master of BERWICK, he took up his station in that town, in supine security ; safe, as he imagined, from any attack from an enemy which he had so lately vanquished in battle : but the Northumbrians, informed of the careless posture in which the Scottish army lay, surprised them by a hasty march, dispersed them, and made a prisoner of the unwary King. Pursuing too the advantage they had gained, they marched northward, and subdued all before them to the Frith of Forth and town of STIRLING. But the forlorn situation of the Scots, without a King, and

without an army, obliging them to sue for peace, they obtained it upon condition that they should pay a large sum of money for the ransom of the King, and yield up all their dominions upon the south side of the Forth to the Northumbrians, and those upon the south of Clyde, with the town of DUMBARTON, to the Cumbrians. The Northumbrians taking possession of the territories ceded to them by this treaty, rebuilt the castle of STIRLING, and planted it with a strong garrison, in order to preserve their new conquests, upon the frontiers of which it was situated.

FORDUN takes no notice of this conquest, nor of the captivity of Donald, though he mentions a defeat of the Picts by that monarch; neither do the ancient English historians, though they mention two Northumbrian princes named Osbrecht and Ella, who lived at that time, and who both perished in 866, in an attack upon the city of YORK, which had been seized upon by the Danes. The whole story wears much of a monkish garb.

WE must not, however, imagine that in those times, that fortress bore any resemblance to the present structure, which is

adapted to the use of fire arms. Its size and form probably resembled those castles which, under the feudal constitution, the English and Scottish barons used to erect upon their estates for dwelling-houses, and which, in those barbarous ages, they found necessary to fortify for their own defence, not only against foreign invaders, but often against the attacks of their nearest neighbours. It is directly such a gothic figure as this which represents the *Castrum Striv-
ilense* on the Arms of STIRLING.

THIS fortress, after it had continued in the possession of the Northumbrian Saxons about twenty years, was, together with the whole country upon the south side of the Forth, restored to the Scots, upon condition of their assisting the Saxons against their turbulent invaders the Danes.

WHEN Kenneth III. received intelligence of the Danes having invaded his dominions, he appointed the castle of STIRLING to be the place of rendezvous for his army; and marched from thence to the battle of LONCARTY, where he obtained a signal victory over these rovers in the end of the twelfth century.

In the twelfth century, this castle is spoken of as a place of great importance, and one of the strongest fortresses in the kingdom. In 1174, a calamity not unusual among the Scottish monarchs, befel William, surnamed the Lion, who at that time occupied the throne : he was taken prisoner in an unsuccessful expedition which he made into England ; and, after having been detained twelve months in captivity, he was released upon stipulating to pay a large sum of money for his ransom, and until payment thereof, delivered into the hands of the English the four principal fortresses in the kingdom, which, in those days, were STIRLING, EDINBURGH, ROXBURGH, and BERWICK, and, over and above, to do homage for his whole kingdom. This was the first and great ascendant that ENGLAND obtained over SCOTLAND ; and indeed the most important transaction that had passed between these kingdoms since the Norman conquest. It happened in the reign of Henry II. but his successor Richard I. remitted what of the ransom money remained unpaid at his accession, restored the fortresses, and renounced all claim to the superiority of SCOTLAND, upon condition of William's advancing a certain sum of money towards a crusade to the Holy Land, upon which the English monarch was much intent.

THE Scottish monarchs, in their frequent perambulations through the kingdom, often visited STIRLING, and held their courts and parliaments in the castle; but it did not become a fixed royal residence till the family of Stewart mounted the throne; and it was from different Princes of that family that it received its present form. It was the place of the nativity of James II. and an event execrable to that King's memory, took place in an apartment of the castle still shewn to visitors. William the sixth Earl of Douglas, whose splendid establishment, extensive power, and confederacy with the Earls of Crawford, Ross, and others, had raised apprehensions in the mind of the young monarch, was allured by promises of safety to his person, to meet him at STIRLING. After supper, the King and the Earl retired to a closet. James urged Douglas to withdraw himself from his engagements with Crawford and Ross; but the Earl, proof against all remonstrances, would not yield to the point. The enraged monarch instantly drew his dagger, and with these words, "If thou wilt not—this shall," plunged it in his bosom. Some of the courtiers in waiting, hearing the noise, rushed into the apartment, and seeing the expiring Earl weltering in his blood, with savage joy stuck their poinards in his bleed-

ing corpse. The friends and attendants of the murdered Douglas, who were numerous and brave, vowed instant vengeance, ran furiously to arms, and set the town in ashes.

JAMES II. was killed by the accidental bursting of a cannon at the siege of Rox-BURGH castle, anno 1460.

JAMES III. contracting a peculiar fondness for the castle, on account of its pleasant situation, made it the chief place of his residence, in which he shut himself up so closely with his favorites, that the nobility and barons were seldom admitted to any intercourse with him. He erected several new structures in it, besides repairing and embellishing those that had fallen into decay. He built a large hall, which, in those days, was deemed a noble and magnificent fabric. That hall is still entire, and goes by the name of the Parliament-house, having been intended for the accomodation of that supreme court, as well as for other solemn purposes; it was covered with an oaken roof of exquisite workmanship, which, though very little decayed, was a few years ago removed to make way for one of a more modern structure. This noble edifice,

which is 120 feet long, has, at a vast expense, been converted into incommodious barracks for the garrison. James also erected a college of secular priests in the castle, and raised, for their accommodation, a fabric, which he called the Chapel-royal, and which was demolished by James VI. in 1594, who erected, on the same spot, the present chapel.

JAMES V. (being an infant of little more than two years of age,) was crowned in the castle of STIRLING; and the Palace, which is the chief ornament of it, was the work of that Prince. This is a stately and commodious structure, all of hewn stone, with much statuary work upon it; it is built in form of a square, with a small court in the middle, in which the King's lions are said to have been kept, and from thence it still goes by the name of the Lions' Den. The Palace contains many large and elegant apartments. The ground story is now converted into barracks for the soldiers of the garrison; the upper storys into lodgings for the officers.

MANY facetious anecdotes of this celebrated monarch are still related in this part of the country; among others, the

following :—“ James V. a Prince eminent for many good qualities of heart and understanding, was skilled in all the manly exercises of the day, particularly in hunting and hawking. Being once benighted when out a hunting, and separated from his attendants, he happened to enter a cottage in the midst of a moor at the foot of the Ochil hills, near ALLOA, where, unknown, he was kindly received, and entertained in the best manner the hospitably disposed inmates had in their power. In order to regale their unexpected guest the *gudeman* (i. e. the landlord,) desired the *gudewife* to fetch the hen that roosted nearest the cock, which is always the plumpest, best fed, and greatest favorite, for the stranger’s supper; which was done with all the good nature imaginable. The king, highly pleased with his night’s lodging, kind reception, and hospitable entertainment, told his host at parting, that he should be glad to return the civility; and requested that the first time he came to STIRLING he would call at the castle, and enquire for the *Gudeman of Ballengeich*, a name by which James facetiously distinguished himself when in disguise he rambled about the country, Donaldson, the landlord, did not fail to call at the *gudeman o’ Ballengeich*, when his astonishment at finding the King had been

his guest afforded no small amusement to the merry monarch and his courtiers; and to carry on the pleasantry, he was thenceforth dignified by James in person, with the title of *King of the Moors*; which name and designation have descended from father to son ever since, and they have continued in possession of the identical spot, the property of Mr Erskine of Mar, till very lately, when that gentleman with reluctance turned out the descendant and representative of the King of the Moors, on account of His Majesty's invincible indolence and great dislike to reform or innovation of any kind, although, from the spirited example of his neighbour-tenants on the same estate, he was convinced similar exertion would promote his advantage. So much are some Kings wedded to the prejudices of their forefathers."

ANOTHER traditional tale of an adventure with a neighboring King, is recorded of this Monarch, by the genealogist Buchannan of Achmar. "King James V. a very social-debonair Prince, residing at STIRLING in Buchannan of Arnpryor's time, carriers were very frequently passing along the common road near Arnpryor's house, with necessaries for the use of the King's family; and he (Arnpryor) having some

extraordinary occasion, ordered one of these carriers to leave his load at his house, and he would pay him for it; which the carrier refused to do, telling him he was the King's carrier, and his load was for his Majesty's use; to which Arnpryor seemed to have small regard, compelling the carrier in the end to leave his load, saying, if King James was King of SCOTLAND, he was King of KIPPEN, so that it was reasonable he should share with his neighbour King in some of these loads so frequently carried that road. The carrier representing this usage, and telling the story, as Arnpryor spoke it, to some of the King's servants, it came at length to his Majesty's ears, who, shortly thereafter, with a few attendants, came to visit his neighbour King, who was in the mean time at dinner. King James having sent a servant to demand access, was denied the same by a tall fellow with a battle-ax, who stood porter at the gate, telling him there could be no access till dinner was over. This answer not satisfying the King, he sent to demand access a second time; upon which he was desired by the porter to desist, otherwise he would find cause to repent of his rudeness. His Majesty, finding this method would not do, desired the porter to tell his master that the *gudeman of Ballengeich* desired to speak

with the King of KIPPEN. The porter telling Arnpryor so much, he in all humble manner came and received the King, and having entertained him with much sumptuousness and jollity, became so agreeable to King James that he allowed him to take so much of any provision he found carrying that road as he had occasion for; and seeing he made the first visit, desired Arnpryor to make a second to him at STIRLING, which he performed, and continued in very much favor with the King always thereafter, being termed *King of Kippen* while he lived."

JAMES V. died at FALKLAND on the 14th December 1542.

MARY Queen of SCOTLAND, was crowned here, September 4th 1543, when she was scarce nine years of age. Upon that occasion, the Earl of ARRAN, governor of the realm, carried the crown, and the Earl of LENNOX the sceptre. A numerous assembly of the states were present, who appointed the Castle to be the place of the young Queen's residence, during her minority, and committed the tuition of her person to the Lords Graham, Lindsay, Erskine, and Livingstone, who were constantly to attend her by turns, and take the oversight of her education.

BAPTISM OF JAMES VI.

JAMES VI. the only son of Lord Darnly and Queen Mary, was born in the castle of EDINBURGH, but soon after conveyed to that of STIRLING, where, upon the 15th of December 1566, he was baptized with much solemnity. Historians have taken notice of the great preparations that were made to render that occasion as splendid as possible. Couriers were dispatched to the courts of ENGLAND, FRANCE, and SAVOY, from each of which ambassadors arrived to countenance the solemnity. Application was also made to a convention of the states for money, who granted twelve thousand pounds Scots, or one thousand pounds Sterling, to defray the expences of it. The Earl of BEDFORD arrived with a great retinue, as ambassador from Queen Elizabeth, and brought, as a present from that Queen, a font of gold, weighing two stones weight. The Count de Briance also arrived from FRANCE; but the ambassador from SAVOY did not arrive till the solemnity was over. A numerous body of the Scottish nobility and barons were present.

WHEN the day appointed for the baptism was come, the Prince was carried, at five

o'clock in the evening, from his chamber into the chapel, by the French ambassador, the passage on each side being lined by the nobility and gentry. The ambassador was followed by four Lords of the Romish persuasion, who were, the Earl of Athol, bearing the great serge of wax, the Earl of Eglinton carrying the salt, the Lord Semple the cude, and Lord Ross the bason and ewer. At the door of the chapel, the Prince was received by John Hamilton Archbishop of ST ANDREWS, accompanied by the Bishops of DUNKELD, DUNBLANE, and Ross; next followed the Prior of WHITEHORN, and sundry Deans and Archdeacons, with the officers and singers of the chapel in their several habits. The Prince was held up at the font by the Countess of ARGYLE, in name of, and by commission from the Queen of ENGLAND. He was baptized by the Archbishop, and named JAMES CHARLES; which names, with his other titles, were thrice proclaimed by the heralds with sound of trumpets. The whole ceremony was performed after the manner of the Church of ROME, excepting that the ceremony of the *spittle* was omitted, by express orders from the Queen. Upon that account, neither the Earl of BEDFORD, nor any of the Scottish nobility, who had espoused the Reformation, entered into the

chapel, but stood at the door. None but popish Lords could be prevailed upon to give their assistance, by carrying the utensils for the service, which afforded the Earl of BEDFORD an opportunity of observing to the Queen, that though twelve Earls were present, none but two were willing to countenance the rites of popery. The Countess of ARGYLE, on account of her having acted so principal a part in that service, was called before the general assembly of the church, where she appeared; and professing her sorrow for having so far countenanced the rites of popery, was appointed to do penance in the same chapel; which, it is probable, she performed.

THE King was not present on that occasion. Buchanan assigns a ridiculous reason for his absence: "because the taylor and embroiderers had neglected to provide him in a suit of cloaths fit for so great a solemnity." Others, with more probability, suggest, that the Earl of BEDFORD and his retinue had received express orders from Queen Elizabeth not to address him by the title of King.—As it was inconsistent with his honor to be denied that title in his own court, and, at the same time, imprudent to quarrel with that Queen, he judged it expedient not to appear at all. It is certain,

that a bad understanding subsisted betwixt him and his own Queen, insomuch that few civilities had passed between them for some time. Yea, the last named historian has been so severe upon Queen Mary, as to affirm, that, though she had paid no attention to the cloathing of her own husband, she had been careful to have the Earl of BOTHWELL clad in a suit embroidered by her own hand.

WHEN the sacred service was ended, and the Prince carried back to his chamber, the Queen, with the English and French ambassadors, sat down to an elegant repast in the great hall or Parliament-house. As soon as the first course was over, a second was brought, in a machine mounted upon carriages, accompanied by a band of music ; at the same time, a piece of bufoonry, invented by a Frenchman, gave great offence to the English who were present, and bred a general disturbance. A number of men, dressed in the form of those imaginary beings called satyrs, with long tails fastened to their bodies, and whips in their hands, entered the hall before the meat. Some Englishmen, considering this as a premeditated insult upon them, were so provoked as to raise a noise ; and it was with much difficulty that the Queen could appease the

uproar and disorder that took place in the hall. It conveys the idea of an uncultivated age, when such an instance of buffoonry as would at present scarce excite laughter at Bartholomew fair, was practised to give entertainment at a court, and had nigh made the feast of the polite Mary to resemble that of the brutal Lapithæ. The English gentlemen would certainly have discovered a more noble spirit, if, instead of resenting such a piece of meanness, they had treated it with contempt, and as unworthy of their notice, as the Earl of BEDFORD appears to have done.

THE ambassadors, during their stay, were entertained with frequent banqueting, and every kind of amusement. Historians observe, that the Earl of BEDFORD never attended worship in the chapel, where sundry popish rites were practised; but went along with the protestant Lords to the town church. That Earl, at his departure, was presented by the Queen, with a chain of diamonds, valued at 2000 crowns: those in his retinue were also honored with presents.

AFTER the resignation of Queen Mary in 1567, a respectable body of nobility, barons, and burgesses, met at STIRLING upon

the 29th of July, and set the crown upon the head of her son, James VI., who was then about thirteen months old. Having convened first in the castle, and adjusted the order of the solemnity, they walked in procession to the town church, where after sermon by Mr John Knox, the royal infant was anointed by Adam Bothwell Bishop of ORKNEY; after which, the crown was set upon his head, or rather held over it. The Earls of Morton and Hume, gave a promissory oath in the King's name, that he should profess and maintain the reformed religion, and govern the kingdom according to the laws thereof. As they returned to the castle, Athol carried the crown, Morton the sceptre, Glencairn the sword of state, and Marr the young King.

THAT Prince resided in the castle during his minority, and received his education under the care of four preceptors, who, besides the celebrated Mr George Buchanan, were, David Erskine commendator of Dryburn, Adam Erskine commendator of Cambuskenneth, and Mr Peter Young. The tuition of his person was committed to Lady Mar, and her son Alexander Erskine.

THE first parliament, after James had

assumed the reins of government into his own hands, met in the great hall of the castle 1578. A party of the nobility were so highly displeased with the appointment of STIRLING as the place of that meeting, in preference to EDINBURGH, that they protested against it. The real cause, however, of their disgust, was the inveterate enmity they entertained against the Earl of Morton, the late regent, who still continued with the King, and as was given out by the enemies of that Earl, much influenced his counsels. The discontented Lords declined, upon that pretext, to attend the parliament, and publicly affirmed, that their sovereign was detained as a captive, which was flatly contradicted by a proclamation from the court. Yet that did not terminate the matter; so great a suspicion and jealousy took place between the dissatisfied Lords, and those that attended the King, that troops were levied on both sides; but before hostilities commenced, an accommodation was happily brought about, which restored tranquility at that time.

BAPTISM OF PRINCE HENRY.

JAMES VI. espoused Anna, a princess of DENMARK, who, upon the 19th of February 1594, was delivered of her first son in the castle of STIRLING. Ambassadors were immediately dispatched to the courts of ENGLAND, FRANCE, DENMARK, and the low countries, BRUNSWICK, and MAGDEBURGH, with the news of this happy event, and to request that each of these courts would send a representative to the young Prince's baptism, which his father intended to accompany with an uncommon splendor and magnificence; at the same time a convention of the nobility and royal boroughs was called, upon pretext of asking their advice concerning the method of conducting the solemnity; but, in reality, to solicit a supply of money to defray the expences of it, as the finances of James were seldom in a state to answer any unusual demand. The convention, being informed of the King's design, readily granted the sum of one hundred thousand pounds Scots, or eight thousand three hundred and thirty-three pounds, six shillings and eight pence, Stg. So large a sum gave new spirits to James, and encouraged him to begin the preparations. The castle of STIRLING, where the

Prince was born, was pitched upon as the most proper place for his baptism; but, as the chapel, which had been built by James III. was deemed neither sufficiently large nor elegant for the present service, orders were given to demolish it, and to erect one more commodious and stately in the same spot. Craftsmen were summoned from every part of the kingdom; and, that the work might be executed with the greatest vigour and celerity, large pay was allowed them, and the King himself acted as their daily overseer.

THE dispatches to foreign courts were so well received, that, without loss of time, ambassadors arrived from each of them, except from FRANCE. Upon the 16th day of July, landed at LEITH, Christianus Bernokow, and Stenio Bille, ambassadors from the King of DENMARK, the Queen's father. Next day arrived Adamus Crusius from the Duke of BRUNSWICK, together with Joachimus Bessewitius from the Duke of MADGEBURGH. And, upon the 3d of August, came the Baron of Braderod from the states of HOLLAND, accompanied by Jacobus Falkins, treasurer of ZEALAND. Some time was spent in waiting for the arrival of the English ambassador, who did not reach STIRLING till the 28th of August.

This delay was occasioned by the Earl of CUMBERLAND, who had been appointed to this service, falling sick, when he was setting out upon his journey, which rendered it necessary to chuse another in his room; and the Earl of SUSSEX, who was pitched upon, required time to get himself in readiness.

IN the mean time, the preparations for this magnificent service were going forward; and the ambassadors who had already arrived, were entertained, at the King's cost, in the most splendid and sumptuous manner. Hunting, and other exercises of the field, or various kinds of amusements in the palace, were the usual pastimes of the day; and the evening was spent in balls, masques, and banqueting. Games of chivalry, such as tournaments, and running at the ring, were also practised in the Valley; which, during the time of those exercises, was surrounded with guards, finely appareled, to prevent the numerous croud of spectators from breaking in upon the ground. A scaffold was erected upon one side of the Valley, for the accommodation of the Queen and her ladies, with the foreign ambassadors; towards which, the performers, at their entrance, always made a low obeisance.

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Soon after the arrival of the English ambassador, namely, upon the 30th of August, the service of the baptism was performed, with a pageantry, which surpassed any thing of the kind ever seen in SCOTLAND. And it is easy to discern, throughout the whole of it, characters of that vanity and pedantry which distinguished James VI. upon other occasions. The new chapel was hung with the richest tapestry, and every embellishment was added, which could tend to heighten the splendor of the occasion. The eastern part of the chapel was enclosed with a rail, within which, none was allowed to enter, except the King, and those that assisted at the service.

At the north-east corner of the house, was placed a chair of state for his Majesty; upon the right hand of which, at a small distance, stood another chair, finely ornamented, with the French arms above it, having been designed for the ambassador of that nation, if he had been present. Next was a seat, covered with crimson taffety, for the ambassador of ENGLAND, and over it the arms of that kingdom; upon the desk before him, lay a cushion of red velvet; and on each side stood a gentleman usher. Next sat Mr Robert

Bowes, the ordinary ambassador from ENGLAND, with a cloth and cushion of purple velvet. Next to Mr Bowes, the ambassador of BRUNSWICK, with a cloth and cushion of green velvet, and, over his head, the arms of his prince. At the greatest distance, upon this side, the ambassadors of the Low Countries were placed, with a cloth and cushion of blue velvet, and over their heads, the arms of their several states. On the left hand were placed the ambassadors of DENMARK, with a cloth of purple velvet upon their desk, and the arms of that kingdom above their heads. Next sat the ambassador of MADGEBURGH, with the arms of his prince above him. In the midst of the partition, a pulpit was erected, which was hung with cloth of gold, and all the pavement, within the partition, was laid with fine tapestry. In a desk under the pulpit, sat Mr David Cunningham, Bishop of ABERDEEN, with Mr David Lindsay, minister of LEITH, upon one hand, and Mr John Duncan, one of His Majesty's ordinary chaplains, upon the other; before them stood a table covered with yellow velvet.

THE passage from the Prince's chamber in the palace, to the door of the chapel, was lined with a hundred hag-butters, fifty

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upon each side, all finely appareled, and most of them young burgesses of EDINBURGH. When all the necessary preparations were completed, the King, attended by the nobility and privy-counsellors, entered the chapel, and sat down in the chair of state. At the same time, the foreign ambassadors repaired to the Prince's chamber, where they found the royal infant laid upon a bed of state, which was richly ornamented, and embroidered with the labours of Hercules. The ascent to the bed, that stood upon a platform, was by three steps, which were covered with tapestry wrought with gold. A large cloth of lawn, also, covered both the bed and steps, and reached a good way over the floor. As soon as the ambassadors and other officers were assembled, the old countess of Marr approached the bed, and, after making a low obeisance, took up the Prince, and delivered him into the hands of the Duke of Lennox, who immediately presented him to the English ambassador, to be borne by him into the chapel. Upon a table in the room, stood the utensils for the sacred service, which the master of ceremonies delivered to certain noblemen, to be carried before the Prince; at the same time, the Prince's robe-royal, which was of purple velvet, richly set with pearls, was delivered

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to the Duke of Lennox, who put it upon the royal infant; the train being held up by the Lords Sinclair and Urquhart. Next they all removed to an outer chamber, where stood a canopy supported by four poles, and covered with crimson velvet fringed with gold. At length, when every thing was regularly adjusted, at the sound of the trumpet, the procession to the chapel set out in the following order :

Lyon King at Arms,

With his brethren in their best robes ;

Lord Semple carrying an ewer with water,

Lord Seaton a silver bason,

Lord Livingstone a towel,

Lord Hume a ducal Crown,

Richly set with diamonds, sapphires, rubies
and emeralds ;

The canopy, borne by four barons,

Walter Scot the laird of Buccleugh, the

Constable of DUNDEE ; Sir Robert

Ker of Cessford, and the laird of Traquair.

Under the canopy,

The Earl of Sussex, ambassador of ENGLAND,

Carrying THE PRINCE in his arms,

Assisted by

Mr Bowes and the Duke of Lennox.

Around the canopy,

The ambassadors of DENMARK,

MADGEBURGH, BRUNSWICK, and the STATES.

The Countess of Mar, and Mrs Bowes,

The Ladies of Honor, and the Nurse.

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UPON their entrance into the chapel, the utensils were received by the master of ceremonies, who placed them upon the table before the pulpit, and the noblemen who bore them, retired to their seats. The canopy was set down before the pulpit, where the English ambassador delivered the Prince to the Duke of Lennox, who immediately gave him to the countess of Marr, and she committed him into the hands of the nurse. Then all the ambassadors retired to their seats. Without the rail were placed long seats, covered with green, upon which sat the gentlemen of ENGLAND, DENMARK, GERMANY, FLANDERS, and SCOTLAND.

As soon as all the company were seated, and silence made, Mr Patrick Galloway, one of his Majesty's ordinary chaplains, mounted the pulpit, and preached upon the 21st chapter of Genesis; "*And the Lord visited Sarah, as he had said, and the Lord did unto Sarah as he had spoken,*" &c. When sermon was ended, the Bishop of ABERDEEN stood up in his seat, and discoursed upon the sacrament of baptism; first in English, and afterwards in Latin, that foreigners, as well as natives, might understand. Next, the provost and prebends of the chapel sung the twenty-first

psalm ; after which, they proceeded to the sacred action. The King, leaving his seat, came near the pulpit, the ambassadors following in order. The barons that bore the canopy, at the same time moved towards the pulpit, and the Duke of Lennox, receiving the Prince from the countess of Marr, delivered him to the English ambassador, who held him in his arms while he was baptized, and called by the names of Frederick Henry. These names were no sooner pronounced, than they were thrice repeated aloud by Lyon king at arms, and as often confirmed by the inferior heralds with sound of trumpets.

WHEN the action was over, the King, ambassadors, and the great officers, returned to their seats, only the English ambassador, who, stepping aside, was waited on by two gentlemen grooms ; one of whom, upon his knees, held a bason, while the other, in the same humble posture, poured water into it. The ambassador washed his hands ; and, having wiped them with a towel, which was presented to him with a low obeisance, by another gentleman-groom, went also to his seat.

WHEN all was again composed, the Bishop of ABERDEEN, mounting the pulpit, de-

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livered a speech in latin verse, in praise of the young prince. After which, he addressed himself in latin prose, to each of the ambassadors, beginning with Lord Sussex. He gave a history of the family of each prince who was there represented by his ambassador, and shewed the relation which every one of them bore to the royal family of SCOTLAND; and concluded with giving thanks to God for the happy occasion, and prosperous assembly. It now only remained to pronounce the blessing, which was no sooner done, than Lyon king at arms cried aloud, God save Frederick Henry, by the grace of God, Prince of SCOTLAND: which was instantly repeated by the other heralds with sound of trumpet, at an open window in the chapel.

THE chapel service being ended, the King, Prince, ambassadors, noblemen, and ladies, going out in the same order in which they had entered, repaired to the great hall or parliament-house: the guns of the castle in the mean time fired, and were answered by vollies of small arms. When the procession had arrived at the hall, the Duke of Lennox received the prince from the English ambassador, and presented him to the King, who dubbed him a knight, the Earl of Marr touching him with the spur.

The King also placed upon the infant's head a ducal crown; and Lyon proclaimed, 'The right excellent, high and magnanime, Frederick Henry, by the grace of God, knight and baron of RENFREW, lord of the ISLES, and earl of CARRICK, duke of ROTH-SAY, prince and great steward of SCOTLAND. These titles were also repeated by the heralds, at a window in the hall.

THEN the prince was carried, by the English ambassador, to his own chamber in the palace, where a variety of the most rich and rare propines were presented. The Earl of SUFFOLK, for Queen Elizabeth, gave a cupboard of wrought plate, valued at three thousand pounds: the ambassador of DENMARK gave two chains of gold, one to the Queen, and the other to the Prince: BRUNSWICK also gave two chains, enriched with precious stones: MADGEBURGH a beautiful table adorned with jewels, and a chain of gold set with jewels to the Queen: HOLLAND gave two cups of gold, and a gold box worth three thousand guineas; and, in the box a grant of an annual pension to the Prince for life, of five thousand florins, to be paid into the hands of the conservator of the Scots privileges at Campvere.

AT eight o'clock in the evening, their Majesties, with the ambassadors, sat down to a sumptuous banquet. First, Lyon and his brethren entered the hall with sound of trumpet; next followed the noblemen who were officers of the King and Queen's household; the Earl of Marr, great master householder; Lord Fleming, great master usher; the Earl of Montrose, carver; the Earl of Glencairn, cup-bearer; and the Earl of Orkney, sewer for the King. And of the Queen's household, Lord Seton, carver; Lord Hume, cup-bearer; and Lord Semple, sewer.

THEIR Majesties and the ambassadors, were placed at one table, with a space between each chair. Upon the King's right hand, sat the Earl of Sussex and Mr Bowes, ambassadors from ENGLAND. Next to them were placed the ambassadors from BRUNSWICK and MADGBURGH. Upon the King's left hand, in a chair of state, sat the Queen, and next to her, first, the ambassadors from DENMARK, and then those from the states of HOLLAND and ZEALAND.

UPON the east side of the hall were placed two long tables, at which sat the noblemen, ladies of honor, and counsellors of SCOTLAND, with such noblemen and gentle-

men as had accompanied the ambassadors from their several countries : betwixt every two noblemen and gentlemen at this table, was placed a lady.

WHEN the first course, which was very rich and sumptuous, was ended, the company were surprised with the sight of a moor drawing a chariot, in the form of a triumphal car, into the hall, with the sound of trumpets and hautboys. This machine was so artfully constructed, that it appeared to be drawn by the strength of the moor alone, who was richly attired, and wore about his neck, as traces, massy chains of pure gold. It was designed at first, that the chariot should have been drawn into the hall by a lion ; but, lest the unexpected appearance of so fierce a creature might have too much alarmed the ladies, or he might have startled at the sight of the lamps and torches, to which that animal has a natural aversion, it was judged, upon second thought, more proper, that this whimsical piece of service should be performed by a moor.

UPON the chariot was a table richly covered with fruits, and all kinds of confectionary wares. Around the table stood six damsels, three of whom were clad in

argentine satin, and three in crimson satin, all richly embellished with gold and silver. Each of them wore a crown or garland upon their heads, and their hair, which hung loose, was decked with feathers, pearls, and jewels. In the front stood one who represented Ceres, (the goddess of corn,) holding a sickle in one hand, and a bunch of corn in the other, with this sentence written upon her side, *fundent uberes omnia campi*, (the fertile fields will produce all things.) Over against Ceres stood Fœcunditia (Fruitfulness,) holding some bunches of chesbols, which were designed to represent fertility, with this device upon one side, *felix proles divum*, (happy offspring of the gods,) and upon the other, *crescant in mille*, (may they grow to a thousand.) Next, on the other side, was placed Fides, (Faith,) holding a bason, in which were two hands joined together, with this sentence, *boni allumina conjugii*, (the children of a happy marriage.) Over against Fides stood Concord, in whose left hand was a golden tassle, and in her right, the horn of plenty, with this device, *pleno beant te numina sinu*, (the deities bless thee from their full bosom.) The next place was occupied by Liberality, who held in her right hand two crowns, and in her left, as many sceptres, with this device, *me comite*,

plura dabis quam accipies, (with me for your companion, you will give more than you receive.) The last was Perseverance, having in her hand a staff, and upon her left shoulder an anchor, with this sentence, *nec dubiæ res mutabunt nec secunda*, (neither adversity nor prosperity shall change me.) The desert, with which the chariot was loaded, was delivered in silence by the damsels, to the Earls, Lords, and Barons, who were employed as sewers.

UPON the departure of the chariot, another spectacle, equally uncommon at feasts, entered the hall: This was a boat placed upon wheels, and so artfully constructed, as to move by secret springs, insomuch that none of the spectators could discern what moved her. The length of her keel was eighteen feet, and her breadth eight; from the bottom to the highest flag, which was lowered upon her passing through the gate of the hall, was forty feet; her masts were painted red; the tackling and cordage were silk of the same colour, and the pullies were of gold. Her ordnance consisted of thirty-six brass guns, elegantly mounted; the sails were of white taffety, and the anchors tipped with silver. In the fore-sail was a compass pointing to the pole, with this device, *Quascunque per un-*

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das, (over any seas.) Upon the main-sail were painted the arms of SCOTLAND, in conjunction with those of DENMARK, and this sentence, *En, quae divisa beatos efficiunt, collecta tenes*, (Lo, thou possessest combined, those things, which, when divided, render men happy.) All the sails, flags, and streamers, were embroidered with gold and jewels: the mariners were in number six, all of the same distinguished Spanish family, the pilot, who was arrayed in cloth of gold, stood alone at the helm, moving and directing the whole machine; fourteen musicians, apparelled in taffety, besides Arion with his harp. Upon the forecastle stood Neptune, clad in Indian silk embroidered with silver, and holding in his hand a trident, and upon his head a crown, with this device, *Junxi atque reduxi*, (I framed it, and brought it back.) Next stood Thetis, with her mace, and this device, *Nunquam abero, et tutum semper te littore sistam*, (I shall never be absent; and shall always set thee safe on shore.) At the hand of Thetis stood Triton with his sea-shell, and this device, *Velis, votis, ventis*, (by sails, prayers, and winds.) Around the vessel were three Syrens, who, accomodating their gestures to the music, repeated this verse, *Unis eris nobis cantandus semper in orbe*, (thou alone in the world shall always be sung by

us) The outside of the boat was decked with pearls, corals, shells, and other productions of the sea. At the sound of a trumpet she entered the hall; and, at the blast of Triton's shell, together with the pilot's whistle, she made sail till she came to the table, discharging her ordnance by the way. When she arrived near the table, the sewers received the wares, which were no other than sweetmeats in shaped glasses, curiously painted with gold and azure, and made up, by the art of the confectioner, in the shapes of almost all sorts of fishes. While the vessel was unloading, Arion, sitting upon the galley-noose, which was in the form of a dolphin, played upon his harp; then followed the hautboys, violins, and flutes; and, last of all, a general concert. In the end, the banquet being finished, thanks were given, and the cxxviii. psalm sung in seven parts, by fourteen voices: Then, at the sound of Triton's shell, and the pilot's whistle, the boat weighed anchor and made sail, till she was without the hall: and so ended the pageantry of this magnificent ceremony, which discovered much more of a capricious vanity, than of an elegant taste in the projector of it. The hulk of the vessel, pretty entire, and standing upon four wheels, is still to be seen in the chapel.

ALL historians speak of this young Prince with admiration, he resided at STIRLING the whole of his infancy, until his father's accession to the throne of ENGLAND: and was committed to the care of John Erskine, Earl of Mar, at the age of five years. Adam Newton, a learned man of that period, was his tutor, under whose care he made such astonishing progress, that at seven years, he wrote in the French language, a letter of compliment to the States General. In the use of the pike and bow, Richard Preston, a gentleman of great accomplishments, was his instructor.

HAVING given a short description of the principal occurrences which took place here, during the residence of the Kings of SCOTLAND in STIRLING, we will proceed to give an account of some of the most memorable sieges which the castle has stood; and afterwards, notice some of the principal battles, which among many others, were fought in its immediate vicinity.

SIEGES OF STIRLING CASTLE.

THIS fortress has been the scene of many transactions, too inconsiderable to be mentioned in a general survey. As its situation renders it a sort of key to the northern parts of the kingdom, the possession of it hath always been esteemed of importance to those who sought to be masters of SCOTLAND ; and from hence, the sieges and revolutions it hath undergone, have afforded much matter for history.

WHEN the national enmity that had long subsisted between the Scots and Picts arose to such a height in the 9th century, that one of these kingdoms must fall, several fierce and bloody battles were fought, before it was finally decided who was to give laws to SCOTLAND. One of these battles was fought near the river Forth. Kenneth II. who at that time occupied the throne, commanded the Scottish army, which he assembled in the neighborhood of STIRLING, in order to avenge the death of king Alpine his father, who, having been taken prisoner in a former action, had been basely murdered by the Picts. Before they had time to march from the place of rendezvous, they were attacked

by the Picts, aided by some auxiliaries from ENGLAND: the combat was fierce and bloody, but the victory at last fell to Kenneth, who pursued the flying enemy with great slaughter, and drove many of them into the Forth.

AFTER this success, Kenneth made a conquest of FIFE, ANGUS, and the greatest part of the Pictish dominions upon the north side of the Forth, and planted garrisons in them. Next year marching southward, he laid siege to the castle of STIRLING, in which the Picts had a strong garrison; but, as he lay before it, he received intelligence, that the inhabitants of FIFE and ANGUS had made an insurrection, had mastered his garrisons, and massacred all the Scots that were among them; and that a new army was assembled under Druskenus, their new king. This intelligence obliged him to raise the siege, and march with all his forces against the enemy, whom he came up with at Scoon, on the banks of Tay, and, after a fierce and bloody engagement, in which the Picts are said to have returned to the charge no less than seven times, he obtained a compleat victory, which put a final period to the ancient empire of that people. All the strengths possessed by them, were, in a

few months, yielded up to Kenneth, who demolished many of them, and that of STIRLING among the rest; it was, however, rebuilt by the Northumbrians, upon an occasion already mentioned, and hath continued to be a royal fortress ever since.

A minute detail of all the sieges and revolutions which this fortress underwent, during the contests with ENGLAND, would afford but small entertainment. In the space of little more than forty years, the English were four times in possession of it, and as often was it wrested from them by the Scots.

IN 1296, Edward I. enraged at Baliol's renunciation of his allegiance, marched into SCOTLAND with a great army, and, like a torrent, carried all before him. The strongest fortresses yielded, almost upon his approach, and that of STIRLING, being deserted by its garrison, made no defence at all. When the Earl of Surry was obliged to retreat to ENGLAND, after the battle of STIRLING, in 1297, he left the castle under the command of Sir Marmaduke de Twenge. But the English dominion in SCOTLAND, was never of long duration, nor in a state of tranquility, having been usually lost by revolutions, as quick as those by

which it was acquired. Sir Marmaduke soon found himself obliged to abandon his station, and retire ; upon which, the castle was taken possession of by Wallace, and the Scots, who kept it till next year, when, after their defeat at FALKIRK, they were obliged to abandon it, after having burned and demolished the fortifications. It was, however, in a few weeks after, repaired by Edward, who planted it with a strong garrison ; and, upon his return, left them well supplied with provisions. In 1299, the Scots recovering their spirits, and taking up arms under the direction of the guardians, who were William Fraser bishop of ST. ANDREWS, Robert Bruce Earl of CARRICK, and John Cumming of Badenoch, drove the English invaders out of most parts of the kingdom, and laid siege to this castle. An army, which was raised to cover the siege, was posted at the Torwood, from whence the guardians wrote a letter to Edward, containing proposals of an armistice, and wishing him health, and the spirit of charity towards his neighbours ; the proposal, however, was not relished by that monarch, who, instead of assenting to it, assembled an army, in order to march to the relief of the garrison. But the discontents of his barons, on account of encroachments he had made upon their privileges,

together with the advanced season of the year, obliged him to stop at BERWICK, and the garrison of STIRLING, finding their expectations of relief cut off, were forced to capitulate.

NEXT year Edward assembled an army, and marched into SCOTLAND, where, among other feats, he invested the castle of STIRLING, and besieged it with a large train of artillery, it was commanded by Sir William Oliphant, a brave officer, who held it out three months. So vigorous a defence so provoked Edward, that he ordered two pair of gallows to be erected in sight of the garrison, and proclamation to be made in their audience, that if they did not surrender against a certain time, every man of them should be hanged up without mercy. They surrendered before the day prefixed, though rather from want of provisions, than fear of Edward's menaces; they were not, however, so far reduced, as not to be able to make an honorable capitulation. But the souls of conquerors have seldom been found to be so great as their names; instead of punctually observing the articles of capitulation, the English monarch treated the garrison with great inhumanity.

AFTER the celebrated victory at ROSLINE,

Sieges of Stirling Castle.

in 1303, a party of Scots, under the command of Sir John de Foulis, laid siege to the fortress, and, after a short defence, the garrison was forced to capitulate for want of provisions. It is said they were betrayed by a messenger, who put into the hands of the Scottish leaders a letter designed for Edward, which contained an account of the extremity to which they were reduced. The command of the castle, upon its surrender, was given to Oliphant the former governor. The same year, Edward, at the head of a fine army, began to besiege it, but was not able to reduce it, till after a siege of twelve months. This was the most memorable siege that it ever underwent. Having been unsuccessful the first campaign, he led his army into winter quarters; he took up his own lodgings in the palace of DUNFERMLINE, where he was visited by his Queen; and his son, the Prince of WALES lay at PERTH, with a strong party. During the recess, he made formidable preparations for renewing the siege early in the spring; he caused the lead to be stripped off several large roofs in ST. ANDREWS, not sparing the cathedral itself, to supply his battering engines; which, as soon as the season of the year would permit, were planted against the walls, and the governor was summoned to

surrender, but without effect; upon which all the artillery was collected, and the walls were furiously battered with stones of two hundred pounds weight, which made great breaches in them, yet the governor still refused to yield; upon which, the assailants proceeded to fill up the fossees with timber, in order to take the place by storm; but their works were immediately burnt by the besieged. So intent was Edward upon the reduction of the place, that he exposed his own person to great danger. As he was riding amongst his works, an arrow from the castle had killed him outright, if he had not been protected by being clad in armour. Holding the weapon up, he threatened to hang the man who shot it; and, after having filled the fossee with earth and stones, he ordered a general assault to be made. By this time, the reiterated attacks of the besiegers had made great breaches in the walls, and the garrison was so diminished, as to consist only of twenty-eight persons, two of whom were friars, and these extremely weakened by watching and fatigue; apprehending, therefore, that a general assault would overpower them, they offered to capitulate.

THE Scottish historians affirm, that a capitulation was signed by both parties; but

that Edward, in direct violation thereof, sent the governor prisoner to ENGLAND, where he remained several years in confinement.

THE English writers assert, that Edward would grant no terms, but those of surrendering at discretion; and that the garrison should march out bare-footed, with ropes about their necks, and, in that condition, publicly implore the conqueror's mercy; yea, some writers of that nation have contaminated their page, by extolling it as an act of clemency in Edward, to spare the lives of those brave men. It is certain that the garrison was sent to different jails in ENGLAND, and the governor to the tower of LONDON, where he continued for four years.

THE castle surrendered upon the 22d of July 1304, and the command of it was given by Edward to William Bizet a Scotsman, who was also appointed sheriff of STIRLING. The English kept possession of it, at that time, for the space of ten years.

IN the spring of the year 1313, Edward Bruce, brother to King Robert, laid siege to it; but, upon account of the vigorous defence made by Sir Philip Moubray the

governor, he found himself obliged to abandon the enterprise ; only, by a treaty between them, it was agreed, that, if no relief came from ENGLAND before St John's day 1314, the garrison should surrender to the Scots, and be allowed to pass unmolested to ENGLAND. The defeat of a detachment of cavalry sent from the English camp, under the conduct of Lord Clifford, to the relief of the garrison, will be afterwards noticed. After the great victory at BANNOCKBURN, the place surrendered to Robert, who treated the garrison with a humanity, of which, none of the Edwards had set an example.

IN 1329, death deprived SCOTLAND of the great ROBERT BRUCE, who, by his valour had recovered the independence of his country, and by his wisdom, had preserved entire the whole political fabric thereof. He left only one son, named David, minor of seven years of age, the guardianship of whom, together with that of the kingdom, was committed to Randolph, earl of Murray, nephew of the late King, and a companion of all his victories.

No country hath suffered more from the frequent minorities of its princes than

SCOTLAND hath done. The death of Randolph, in two years after he had entered upon his regency, having left the young King, and the whole kingdom, in a forlorn and defenceless state; a new scene of confusion soon unfolded itself, which rendered the nation a constant seat of war for many years. Edward Baliol, son of that John, who, in the end of the preceding century had been crowned King of SCOTLAND, readily embraced so favorable an opportunity of reviving the claims of his family upon the crown. He was stimulated to the enterprise by the English court; and, though Edward III. who then occupied the throne, pretended at first to disavow it, yet he soon openly espoused his cause. Baliol's success at first was extremely rapid; in a few months, he over-run the whole country, like an inundation, and was crowned King at Scoon. But the Scots being generally unfriendly to his claims, both on account of his connection with ENGLAND, and their own attachment to the Brucean line, took up arms, and turned him out of his kingdom, by a revolution as quick as that by which he had acquired it. The English monarch, to whom Baliol had engaged to do homage for his crown, incensed at the manner in which his vassal had been treated, assembled a numerous army,

in order to reinstate him in his royalty, or rather to attempt a conquest of the kingdom for himself. But he soon perceived that the nation was as far as ever from being conquered; his successes were usually chequered with equal losses, and he observed nothing but hostile appearances in the kingdom, except a few miles around the spot where he was encamped. At last, after no less than nine expeditions into SCOTLAND, he found himself obliged finally to abandon the enterprise.

IN those times, the castle of STIRLING underwent its revolutions with the rest of the kingdom. In 1333, it yielded to the Baliol party, and, according to some accounts, was dismantled by orders from the English King, who had learned, by the experience of his grandfather, how dangerous a weapon it might prove, if it should again come into the possession of the Scots. But, in 1336, it was rebuilt by the orders of that monarch, and planted anew with a strong garrison, the command of which was given to Sir Thomas Rukby. Next year, the Brucean party recovering strength by supplies they had received from FRANCE, attempted the reduction of it; they were, at that time, commanded by Sir William Douglas of Liddesdale, and Sir Andrew

Murray, and lay two months before it; but it was relieved by Edward in person, who victualled and strengthened the garrison, carrying the sick and wounded with him to ENGLAND. At this siege, Sir Robert Keith, great marshall of SCOTLAND, whose valour had contributed not a little to the celebrated victory of BANNOCKBURN, was killed. Next year, the siege was renewed, and raised again by the English monarch. But, in 1339, the Scots, under Douglas and Murray, conducted the siege with such indefatigable industry, that the garrison capitulated, though upon honorable terms. After that time, the English were never able to penetrate so far northward into SCOTLAND.

THE last reduction of this fortress by a siege, was in 1651. When Cromwell followed King Charles II. into ENGLAND, before the battle of WORCESTER, he left general Monk behind him to complete the conquest of SCOTLAND, which he soon accomplished. Upon his arrival at STIRLING, he planted his batteries in the church-yard, and the eminences adjoining to it, and, in a short time, made himself master of the castle. The impressions made by the bullets of the besiegers, are still visible upon the walls of several buildings in the castle,

some parts of the statuary work upon the palace having been disfigured by them. The marks of those shot by the besieged also still remain upon the steeple of the church, several of the corner stones of which have been broken by them. By this conquest, Monk became master of the principal registers of the kingdom; which, upon the surrender of the castle of EDINBURGH the year before, had been carried to STIRLING, He sent them to ENGLAND by Cromwell's orders, to be lodged in the tower of LONDON, where they remained until the restoration of Charles in 1660, when, by the orders of that monarch, they were packed up in a great number of hogsheads, to be carried back to SCOTLAND; but the ship having been cast away in a storm, near BERWICK, they were all irrecoverably lost. This calamity, together with that which befel our more ancient records, by the malicious policy of Edward I. hath involved the Scottish history in great obscurity, and obligeth us to remain in ignorance and uncertainty, with respect to many important national transactions, as well as private occurrences.

THE last military transaction which took place here, was in the rebellion of 1746, at which period an English governor display-

ed no small degree of skill and courage in its defence against four thousand of Prince Charles-Edward's troops ; who after an ill-conducted siege, returned to their fastness north of the Forth ; being pursued by the Duke of CUMBERLAND, they were completely vanquished in the field of CULLODEN ; which event was decisive of the last attempt made by the Stuarts to regain the throne of their ancestors.

BATTLE OF STIRLING.

THE extinction of the royal line of SCOTLAND, by the death of Alexander III. who was killed, in the prime of life, by a fall from his horse at KINGHORN, in March 1285, opened a scene of confusion in that kingdom, which brought it to the very brink of ruin. The next heir to the crown was a princess, scarcely three years of age, grandchild to the late King, by his daughter, who had been married to the King of NORWAY. That infant, commonly called *the Maiden of Norway*, was immediately acknowledged as Queen by the states, who at the same time established a regency for the management of affairs during her minority. But her death in 1290, threw the kingdom into a general consternation, and left the succession altogether perplexed and uncertain. The history of the different competitors for the vacant crown, upon this occasion, is foreign to our purpose. John Baliol and Robert Bruce were generally allowed to stand foremost in the list; but, as it admitted of a dispute to which of them the preference belonged, they both agreed, with the consent of the Scottish nobility, to refer the decision thereof to Edward I. of ENGLAND. A malicious

policy, which, in all ages, has too much guided the councils of princes, suggested to that monarch, that he had now in his hands the most favorable opportunity of gratifying his own ambition. Instead, therefore, of acting the part of a fair arbitrator, he sought to avail himself of the present distracted state of a free people, in order to enslave them. He called in question the independency of SCOTLAND, pretending that that kingdom was a fief of his crown, and subjected to all the conditions of a feudal tenure. Both the competitors, with a spirit truly mean, acknowledged his claim, as did also many of the greatest subjects. Having, by this means, established his paramount power over SCOTLAND, he gave decision in favor of Baliol; who, thereupon, did homage, and swore fealty to him as his liege lord. Bruce, though he did not cordially acquiesce in the sentence, found himself not in a capacity to make any successful opposition. Edward, however, found his new vassal not so pliant to his orders as he required. Baliol, either ashamed of his former pusillanimity, by which he had lost the affection and confidence of his subjects, or sensibly galled with the oppressive yoke he found wreathed about his own neck, began to attempt a more spirited behaviour; though the general

tenor of his conduct, bore marks of a feeble and imprudent mind. After having, in repeated instances, discovered a failure of respect to his rigid and imperious lord, he at length expressly renounced his allegiance to him, and made some feeble exertions to establish his own independence. This so provoked the haughty mind of Edward, that he immediately proceeded to every act of tyrannical rage. He invaded SCOTLAND with a numerous army; and, after having defeated Baliol at DUNBAR, he forced him to a formal surrender of himself and his kingdom, and then shut him up in the tower of LONDON. He filled the garrisons with English soldiers; carried many of the nobility to ENGLAND, where they were detained as securities for the peaceable behaviour of the rest; required all ranks to swear fealty to him, to which the present necessity obliged the greatest part to yield. He seized the public archives; and, getting possession of so many historical monuments, that tended to prove the antiquity or freedom of SCOTLAND, carried some of them home with him, and, with a spirit truly gothic, commanded the rest to be destroyed. He also appointed a lieutenant, with other officers of state, in that kingdom, and settled the government of it as if it had been a province of ENGLAND.

THE Scottish nation were partly so blind to their own interest, partly so intimidated, that, at first, they silently acquiesced in Edward's claims, and beheld the various acts of his oppressive usurpation, without making any vigorous attempts to preserve their own independence. At length a patriot hero stepped forth to stem this tide of foreign tyranny, and assert the liberties of his native country. This was the renowned WILLIAM WALLACE, who was descended from an ancient, though not opulent, family in the west of SCOTLAND, and endowed with great sagacity of mind, and an uncommon strength of body. He beheld, with deep concern, the fetters that were wreathed about the neck of his countrymen; and had the honor of being the first, who, upon this occasion, rekindled the almost extinguished spark of liberty among them.

His first appearance was in no higher a character than that of a volunteer for the service of his country, the freedom of which was his ruling passion. Having communicated his sentiments to a few friends, he found them animated by the same spirit, and disdaining the claims of ENGLAND as much as he did. An illustrious fraternity was soon formed, with the

laudable view of delivering SCOTLAND from thralldom, and restoring her independence. And, though they acted not under the sanction of public authority, yet the circumstances of the nation will sufficiently vindicate their conduct to all the genuine sons of freedom.

WALLACE having the direction of this association, began the execution of his designs by attacking and cutting off small bodies of the English, whom he found traversing the country. Next he proceeded to attack the forts which they possessed, and carried many of them by storm. Frequent exploits of that kind soon rendered his name conspicuous; and every advantage he gained, both gave new spirits to his little band, and encouraged others to join him, till at length he found himself at the head of a considerable army.

HE had not, indeed, the happiness of seeing his patriotic design so generally supported as it deserved. Indolence or timidity prevented a part of the nobility from contending him; envy and jealousy lead others of them to thwart all his measures. His exploits, however, though they were not crowned with final success, preserved the spirit of liberty, and paved the

Battle of Stirling.

way to that independence, which the nation, not long after his death, obtained.

SUNDRY places in STIRLINGSHIRE are still memorable for having been the scenes of this hero's exploits. The Torwood was a place where he and his party often held their rendezvous, when they were engaged in any expedition in that part of the country, and to which they retreated in case of danger. In that wood, not many years ago, was to be seen the ruins of an aged oak, known by the name of *Wallace' tree*; which is supposed to have been one of the largest that ever grew in SCOTLAND; being no less than eleven or twelve feet in diameter.

AT GARGUNNOCK the English had a small fort called the Peel, in which a garrison was stationed, to watch the passage of the Forth at the ford of Frew, in its neighborhood; Wallace, with a small party, attacking this fort, carried it by storm. The same success attended him, in an assault upon the tower of AIRTH, which was garrisoned by English soldiers, whom he put to the sword. The square tower, which makes a part of the present house of AIRTH, upon the west, is said to be the same in which that bloody exploit was performed.

EDWARD was at that time in FRANCE, being engaged in a war with that nation; but he sent over a very express commission to the Earl of SURREY and SUSSEX, whom he had appointed lieutenant in SCOTLAND, and Hugh Cressingham the treasurer, to suppress the insurrection, which he understood had taken place there. Upon which they raised an army of fifty thousand foot, besides a thousand horse, and advanced towards STIRLING in quest of Wallace, who was in the north, engaged in reducing the English fortresses. But, having obtained timely intelligence of the formidable armament that was advancing against him, he quickly collected an army of ten thousand men, and, with great celerity, marched southward, in order to dispute with the enemy the passage of the Forth.

WHEN the English came within sight of STIRLING, they beheld the Scottish army posted on a hill near the Abbey of Cambuskenneth, now known by the name of Abbey Craig. The two armies continued some time in full sight of each other, upon opposite banks of the river. The English generals sent two Dominican friars to offer peace to Wallace and his followers, upon their submission: Wallace replied, that the Scots had come to that place to fight,

and not to sue for peace ; that the independency and freedom of their country was the great object they had in view, and were prepared to defend with their swords. He concluded with a challenge to the English to advance. This answer so provoked the English commanders, that they immediately prepared to cross the river, in order to attack the Scots.

THE bridge over the Forth was, at that time, of timber, and stood half a mile higher up the river than the present one : and, though it was so narrow that only two could pass it a-breast, the English generals proposed to transport their numerous army by means of it. Only one Lundy strenuously opposed that method of crossing the river, pointing out to them a ford near at hand, where they could easily pass sixty a-breast. He suspected a secret snare had been laid by Wallace, whose genius he knew to be very fertile of stratagems, and his sagacity too great to risk a battle, with so small a handful of men, without having made some unseen preparations to counterbalance the vast inequality of numbers. No regard, however, was paid to his opinion, though the event shewed how just it was.

THE English army continued to cross the bridge, from the dawn of the morning to eleven o'clock in the forenoon, without any impediment. But, by that time, the Scots had advanced to attack those who had got over, and had also sent a strong detachment to stop the passage of the bridge, which they effected. This caused so great a confusion amongst the English, that many of those, who were at that time upon the bridge, attempting to return, were driven into the water and drowned.

SOME writers also affirm, that the bridge suddenly gave way, either by the great weight upon it, or rather by a stratagem of Wallace, who, foreseeing that the enemy would pass that way, had ordered the main beam to be sawed so artfully, that the removal of one pin or wedge caused the downfall of the whole; and had stationed a man beneath it in a basket, in such a manner, as that, unhurt himself, he could execute that design, which was to be done upon a certain signal, said to be the blowing of a horn from the Scottish army.

By this means numbers fell into the river, and those who had passed were vigorously attacked by Wallace. They fought for a while with great bravery,

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under the command of Sir Marmaduke Twenge, an officer of noted courage and experience. The Scots at first made a feint of retreating; but soon facing about, gave the enemy a vigorous onset, while a party, who had taken a compass round the Abbey Craig, fell upon their rear. The English were at last entirely routed, and five thousand of them slain; amongst whom was a nephew of Sir Marmaduke Twenge, a youth of great hopes, whose death was generally lamented. Sir Marmaduke, with the rest, falling back to the river, crossed it with much difficulty. Some finding fords, plunged through with great precipitation, and others escaped by swimming.

CRESSINGHAM was among the slain, having passed the bridge among the first, in full confidence of victory. He was an ecclesiastic; but, as it was common, in those times, for such to possess civil offices, he had been advanced by Edward to the office of high treasurer in SCOTLAND. He had rendered himself detestable by rapine and oppression; but the Scots disgraced the victory by the manner in which they treated his dead body. They flayed off his skin, and cut it in pieces, to make girths and other furniture for their horses.

THIS battle was fought upon the 13th of September 1297. The scene of the action appears to have been about the place now called CORNTOWN, and in a plain upon the north side of the river, opposite to the castle of STIRLING. It was the most complete victory that Wallace had ever gained in a regularly fought field; nor was his loss any way considerable, Sir Andrew Murray of Bothwell being the only person of note that was slain.

THE Earl of Surry, who, with the rest of the English army, was upon the south side of the river, beholding this disaster, immediately retreated southward, after having set fire to what remained of the bridge, in order to prevent a quick pursuit from the victorious Scots. But he was greatly harrassed in his march by the Lord High Stewart, and the Earl of Lennox, who came upon him from behind the neighboring mountains, where they had been posted in ambush, with a large body of men, in expectation of what had happened. Wallace too, having speedily crossed the river, soon joined them; and coming up with the main body of the retreating army at the Torwood, a sharp action ensued, in which the Scots obtained the victory, and Surry himself escaped with great difficulty, being so

closely pursued, that the historians of those times have been careful to inform us, that, when he arrived at BERWICK, his horse was so fatigued that he could not eat.

THIS signal victory raised the fame of Wallace, and struck the English with such terror, that they yielded up the forts they possessed, as soon as he appeared before them; and in a few months, all the places of strength in the kingdom were recovered, and scarce an Englishman was to be seen in the country.

THE Scots also, looking upon him as the deliverer of their country, crowded to his standard, and an assembly of the states chose him to be general of the army, and guardian or protector of the kingdom under Baliol, who was still in a state of confinement. This high office he executed with great dignity, though not without much envy and malevolent opposition from several of the chief nobility. He bore up, however, against all discouragements; and found as many friends of liberty, among the middling ranks of his countrymen, as not only supported him in maintaining the internal government of the kingdom, but also enabled him to make inroads upon ENGLAND.

BATTLE OF BANNOCKBURN.

NO event, in which human blood flowed in profusion, is recorded by the Scottish historians, with a greater degree of that national pride which is common to most people, than the memorable battle fought on the 24th June 1314, between the English and Scottish armies, on the fields of BANNOCKBURN.

THE victories of POICTIERS and CRESSY have been celebrated with all that energy and glow of colouring with which historians of ENGLAND usually decorate their illumined page; but defeats are by them thrown into shade. This is pardonable on the score of national predilection. The same indulgence which their partiality claims on such occasions, is here expected, while a few of the leading circumstances relating to the victory obtained by the Scots, under the royal standard of Robert de Bruce, are narrated in this place.

OUR poets and historians dwell with admiration on the heroism displayed in the eventful life of the valiant Bruce. At one time we view him a satellite of the English court; at another, asserting the rights of

his country; unfortunate in his career of glory, we behold him a fugitive, wandering among the mountains, friendless and unknown; but, ere long, his better fortune beckons him to the field, where victory awaited the valour of his arms.

NATIONAL enthusiasm being excited, the indignant nobles crowded to the standard of the grandson of him who was the competitor of Baliol for the imperial diadem. Every man felt for the independence of his country; and all were resolved to conquer or die in the common cause; the justice of which, the sword alone was competent to decide.

MANY combats were gallantly sustained by the Scots, though unattended with success, before the decisive battle, now about to be described, was fought, which effectually disappointed the hopes of Edward of CARNARVON, and totally defeated his purpose to reduce SCOTLAND by force of arms. Edward's forces had been led northward, as to certain victory. They were composed of men of all descriptions, collected from FLANDERS, GASCONY, IRELAND, WALES, ENGLAND, and even SCOTLAND; and were bent on mischief, blood and rapine. Their numbers are said to have been about one

hundred thousand, while the army of Bruce did not exceed thirty-five thousand fighting men. The motives of an invading army differ widely from those which actuate the firm resolves of a band of patriots, determined to repel invasion, however formidable its aspect. When to motives founded in honor, and excited by a love of freedom, are added experience in war, and courage in danger; these, if brought into action with due precaution and skillful dexterity, cannot fail of success, when life, fortune, and all that is dear to man, are at stake. Thus animated, the Scottish army, under Bruce, repelled and vanquished the army of Edward.

HAVING posted his troops on the left side of the Bannock, where, on one hand, a morass* of considerable extent, and on the other, a range of pretty steep rocks† happened to be; Bruce taking advantage of these favorable circumstances, and having a rivulet, whose steep banks were of themselves a bulwark, in front, directed deep ditches to be made along the whole extent of his line, on the left bank of the rivulet, and ordered them to be planted with sharp pointed stakes, covered with

* Milltown-bog.

† Murray's-craigs.

turf, so much resembling the natural appearance of the grounds adjacent, as to elude the possibility of a detection.

EXCEPTING the castles of BERWICK, EDINBURGH, and STIRLING, Bruce had seized on the principal fortresses throughout the kingdom. STIRLING held out to the last, having been defended with great bravery by Sir Philip Moubray, against the valour and skill of Edward Bruce, the King's brother, who in vain made every possible effort to reduce a fortress of so much importance, being a key to all beyond the Forth; and, in the event of a defeat, a place of safety and retreat. Tired out, and impatient of so fruitless an enterprise, Edward Bruce offered terms of capitulation to the governor of STIRLING castle, which were agreed to, upon condition, that if no relief from ENGLAND arrived by St. John's day 1314, Moubray should open the gates to the besiegers. The day appointed was approaching, and the looked-for succours not far distant; for already had Edward commenced his march from EDINBURGH, whence the first day he proceeded to FALKIRK, and there halted. Having refreshed his troops most part of the following day, he in the afternoon arrived on the field of battle, and pitched his tent

nearly opposite to that of Bruce, who had unfurled the royal banner, and awaited his coming. Ere sunset, when camp was seen almost joined to camp, a fine body of cavalry, to the number of eight hundred, was detached from the English, under the command of Lord Clifford, to the relief of STIRLING castle. These having marched through the low grounds, upon the edge of the carse, had passed the Scottish army before they were observed. The King himself was among the first who perceived them, and desiring Thomas Randolph to turn his eyes towards that place where they were making their appearance, in the crofts north of the church of ST. NINIANS, told him, with marks of displeasure in his countenance, “that a rose had fallen from his chaplet.” Randolph, considering this as a severe reproach, because he had the command of the left wing of the army, where they had passed, immediately set out after them with a party of five hundred foot, and coming up with them in the plain, where the small village of NEW-HOUSE now stands, a sharp action ensued in sight of both armies, and of the garrison of STIRLING. Randolph’s party, who had drawn up in the form of an orb, with their spears in a horizontal position before them, were briskly attacked by the enemy, who

surrounded them. It was fought with much valor on both sides, and was for some time doubtful whether victory would turn. Robert, attended by several of his general officers, beheld this rencounter from a rising ground, supposed to be the round hill; immediately upon the west of St. NINIANS, now called Cockshot-hill. James Douglas, perceiving the distress of Randolph, who was greatly inferior to the enemy in point of numbers, asked leave to go with a reinforcement to his support. This the King at first refused; but, upon his afterwards consenting, Douglas put his soldiers in motion; observing, however, as he was on the way, that the victory was upon the point of being won, without his assistance, he stopped short, that Randolph and his men, who had long fought so hard, might enjoy the unrivalled glory of it. The English were entirely defeated, and a great number of them slain; among whom was Sir Gilzame de Aimecout, a knight of great renown, who, in the beginning of the action, had exposed himself with an unwary forwardness. The loss of the Scots was so small, as to be almost incredible, only one man out of the whole corps having been slain. Randolph and his company, covered with sweat and dust, returned to the camp, amidst acclamations of universal

joy. To perpetuate the memory of this victory, two stones were reared up in that field, and are still to be seen there. They stand in a spot, which has been lately inclosed for a garden, at the north end of the village of NEWHOUSE, about a quarter of a mile from the south port of STIRLING.

At length appeared the dawn of that important day, which was to decide whether SCOTLAND, was, henceforth, to be an independent kingdom, or subjected to a foreign yoke. By day-break both armies were in motion; and each combatant waited in anxious expectation for the signal of battle. The English army advanced in three divisions to the brink of the rivulet Bannock; their infantry formed the centre, and was led on by the King in person; the wings consisted chiefly of cavalry, and were commanded by the Earls of Gloucester and Hereford. The Scottish forces were also drawn up in three divisions; the right wing, which occupied the highest grounds, was commanded by Edward, brother of Bruce; and the left, which stretched far to the north on the low grounds, was given in charge to Randolph, an able and experienced general, on whom much depended; the main body was supported by Bruce himself. It is on level ground that cavalry

Battle of Bannockburn.

can act most to advantage. The English, aware of this, vigorously charged the division commanded by Randolph; while he, anticipating the confusion into which the enemy must fall in their rapid approach, when brought into the snare prepared for them, was prepared to rush on and complete their overthrow. The stratagem completely succeeded; the English horses fell into the concealed ditches, and were thrown into the greatest disorder. At that instant the Scots charged, and made terrible havock. Excited by an irresistible curiosity, the Scottish line pressed forward to view what was going on in the plain below, when, as Bruce was riding in front, in order to make the soldiers keep their ranks, an English knight, armed at all points, rode full tilt, with his lance couched against the breast of the Scottish King; but, missing his aim, Bruce, with his battle-ax, at one stroke, brought him to the ground. Encouraged by this favorable omen, the Scottish infantry came boldly to the charge; but the English archers so galled them in the onset, that had not Bruce speedily dispatched a body of light horsemen to annoy the enemy, the fate of the day might have been soon decided. The battle now spread from wing to wing, and raged with the utmost fury. At this time it seemed

doubtful to which side victory inclined; when, to the amazement of the English, a fresh army, as it were, appeared on the heights to their left, which threatened to surround them, and cut off their retreat. The danger, however, was not real, as the imagined army consisted only of such attendants on the camp as chance had thrown together, and who having, with remarkable address, drawn up in order of battle, marched on leisurely to the heights. Here, with a general shout, they called on their countrymen to strike home, and waved their mock banners to the wind; so that this motely band appeared no less formidable than if they had carried destruction in their ranks. Whether this stratagem, so ingeniously conducted, originated among the actors themselves, or had been preconcerted in a council of war among the Scottish commanders, is left to conjecture; the effect, however, was the same; for as soon as the English perceived them, fearing least their retreat should be cut off, they fled in all directions. The carnage now became dreadful. The Scots shewed no mercy, and pursued the enemy every where. Many fell by the sword, and a vast number, in attempting to escape, were drowned in the Forth. So great and

so general was the slaughter on both sides, that historians are at a loss how to estimate it. Eastward the ground was strewn with the slain for a considerable length of way. James Douglas, who, with a body of light cavalry, led the pursuit, harassed the rear of the enemy; and had not Edward been received by the governor of DUNBAR castle, and thence sent round by water to BERWICK-UPON-TWEED, he certainly would have fallen into the hands of his pursuers. The flower of the English nobility lay on the field of battle; and many were taken prisoners, whose ransom enriched the victorious army. The booty also was immense. From that period SCOTLAND has experienced the high advantages procured by the victory obtained over the English at BANNOCKBURN: for thus the independence of the Scottish crown was established, and afterwards maintained, though not without much blood, by succeeding monarchs; till, by mutual consent, an union of the kingdoms was agitated, agreed to, and solemnly ratified, early in the eighteenth century.

IN a field not far from ST. NINIANS, on Brock's-brae, a stone, called the *bore-stone*, having a considerable perforation in its centre, in which the royal standard of

Bruce was fixed, is still pointed out to the traveller.

THE BATTLE OF SAUCHIE BURN, OR, FIELD OF STIRLING.

NEVER was any race of monarchs more unfortunate than the Scottish; their reigns were generally turbulent and disastrous, and their own end often tragical. According to fabulous authors, more than one hundred had reigned before James VI. the half of whom died by violence. And of six successive princes, the immediate predecessors of that monarch, not one died a natural death.

A misunderstanding subsisted between James III. and several of the chief nobility during a great part of his reign. A minute investigation of the various causes of which, would be foreign to our purpose. James did not possess those talents for government which had distinguished several of his predecessors; for, though sundry wise and useful regulations were established in his reign, and his errors have, no doubt, been much exaggerated by faction, yet it cannot be denied, that marks of an imprudent and feeble mind are visible in the general tenor of his conduct.

A natural timidity of temper, together with a foolish attention to astrology, filled his mind with perpetual jealousy and suspicion. A fondness for architecture, music, and other studies and amusements, which, though innocent and useful, were too trifling to engage the whole time and care of one who held a sceptre over a fierce and turbulent people, rendered him averse to public business. Indolence, and want of penetration, led him to make choice of ministers and favorites, who were not always the best qualified for the trust committed to them.

THE ministers of state had usually been chosen from amongst the nobility, but, in the reign of James, the nobles, either from fear or hatred of them, or from a consciousness of his own inability to maintain his dignity among them, were seldom consulted in affairs of government, and often denied access to the royal presence.

THIS could not fail to excite the displeasure of the Scottish barons, who were naturally haughty, and who, in former reigns, had not only been regarded as the companions and counsellors of their sovereigns, but had possessed the great offices of power and trust.

THEIR displeasure arose to indignation, when they beheld every mark of the royal confidence and favor, conferred upon persons of mean rank, such as Cochran a mason, Leonard a smith, Rodgers a musician, Hommil a taylor, and Tortifan a dancing master; whom James always kept about him, carressed with the fondest affection, and endeavoured to enrich with an imprudent liberality.

To redress this grievance, the barons had recourse to a method, altogether characteristic of that ferocity which had always distinguished them. Unacquainted with the slow and regular method adopted in modern times, of proceeding against royal favorites and evil counsellors, by impeachment, they seized upon those of James by violence, tore them from his presence, and without any form of trial, executed them with a military dispatch and rigour. So gross an insult could not fail to have excited some degree of resentment, even in the most calm and gentle bosom; but true policy would have suggested to a wise prince, as soon as the shock of passion had subsided, the necessity of relinquishing measures which had given so great offence to subjects so powerful as the Scottish barons were at that time; for

their power was become so predominant, by a concurrence of other causes, besides the nature of the feudal constitution, that the combination of a few of them was able to shake the throne. The attachment of James to favorites was, notwithstanding, so immoderate, that he soon made choice of new ones, who became more assuming than the former, and, consequently, objects of greater detestation to the barons, especially to those, who, by their near residence to the court, had frequent opportunities of beholding their ostentation and insolence.

At length matters came to an open rupture. A party of the nobility, after a series of combinations amongst themselves, took to arms; and having, either by persuasion or force, prevailed upon the Duke of ROTHSAY, the King's eldest son, a youth of fifteen, to join them; they, in his name, erected their standard against their sovereign; who, roused by the intelligence of such operations, quitted his retirement, and also took the field. An accomodation at first took place, but upon what terms is not known. The transactions of the latter part of this reign are variously related by historians, and but darkly by the best. Those who lived nearest the time, and had

the fullest opportunities of information, probably found that they could not be explicit, without being obliged to throw reflections upon either the father or son ; and, therefore, saw it prudent to be upon the reserve. Some affirm, that the malecontents proposed, that James should resign his crown in behalf of his son ; but this accommodation, whatever the articles of it were, as it appears to have been attended with no mutual confidence, was of a very short duration. New occasions of discord soon arose. The malecontents asserted, that James had not fulfilled his part of the treaty ; but ignorance of the articles thereof renders us unable to form any certain judgment of the truth of that charge. There are, however, strong presumptions of its truth. The Earls of Huntly, Errol, Marchal, the Lord Glamis, with sundry others, who had hitherto adhered to James, left him at this time, and joined the disaffected party. And, in the Act of Parliament, entitled, “ The proposition of the debate of the Field of STIRLING,” which was framed soon after the King’s death, his receding from certain articles, which he had formerly consented to, as a foundation of peace, is expressly assigned as the reason which determined these Lords to that sudden change. It declares, “ That the late King,

“ by perverse counsel of divers persons,
“ who were with him at the time, had
“ broken certain articles, which he had
“ subscribed and consented to ; whereupon
“ the Earl of Huntly, and sundry others
“ of the King’s lieges, forsook him, and
“ adhered to our sovereign Lord that now
“ is.” It is certain, that the confederacy
began now to spread wider than ever, so
as to comprehend almost all the barons,
and consequently all their military vassals
and retainers on the south side of the
Grampian mountains.

JAMES having the prospect of new hostilities, shut himself up in the castle of EDINBURGH, as a place of safety, till, by the arrival of his northern subjects, whom he had summoned to his assistance, he should be in a condition to take the field. But, as STIRLING was reckoned more convenient for the rendezvous of the northern clans, he was advised to go thither. But, upon his arrival, he was denied access into the castle, by James Shaw the governor, who favored the other party. And while he was deliberating what step to take upon this unexpected incident, intelligence was brought, that the disaffected Lords, at the head of a considerable army, had advanced to the Torwood, within a few miles

of him. The only alternative was, either to make his escape on board Admiral Wood's fleet, which was stationed in the river Forth, near ALLOA, or to engage the enemy with what forces he had already collected. Though not distinguished for courage, he resolved upon the latter, and prepared for battle.

THE two armies met in a tract of ground, which now goes by the name of Little Canglar, upon the east side of a small brook called Sauchie burn, about two miles south from STIRLING, and one from the famous field of BANNOCKBURN. The royal army was drawn up in three divisions; but historians differ widely as to their numbers; some, beyond all probability, making them amount to above thirty thousand. The Earls of Menteith and Crawford, the Lords Erskine, Graham, Ruthven, and Maxwell, with Sir David Lindsay of Byres, were each of them entrusted with a military command; though we are not certainly informed how these leaders with their several divisions were arranged. Nor is it agreed in what part the King had his station; only, we are informed, that he was armed cap-a-pee, and mounted on a stately horse, which had been presented to him by Sir David Lindsay, who informed his Ma-

jesty, that he might at any time trust his life to his agility and sure-footedness, provided he could keep his seat on the saddle.

THE army of the malecontents, which amounted to eighteen thousand, of which the greatest part were cavalry, was likewise ranged in three divisions. The first, which was composed of East-Lothian and Merse men, was commanded by the Lords Hume and Hailes, whose discontent arose from the King's annexing to his chapel-royal at STIRLING, the revenues of the priory of COLDINGHAM, to the disposal of which they claimed a right. The second line, which was made up of the inhabitants of GALLOWAY, and the shires upon the borders, was led by Lord Gray; and the Prince had the name of commanding what was called the main body, though he was entirely under the direction of the Lords about him. Showers of arrows from both sides began the action; but they soon came to a closer engagement with lances and swords.

THE royalists at first gained an advantage, and drove back the first line of the enemy; but these being soon supported by the borderers, who composed the second line, not only recovered their ground, but

pushed the first and second lines of the royalists back to the third.

THE small courage James possessed, forsaking him at the first onset, he put spurs to his horse, and galloped off, with a view to get on board Admiral Wood's ships, which lay in sight, at the distance of five miles ; at least, from the route he took, this is supposed to have been his intention. As he was crossing the brook of Bannockburn, at the small village of MILLTOWN, a mile eastward of the field of battle, a woman happened to be drawing water at the brook ; but, upon observing a man in armour galloping full speed towards her, she left her pitcher and ran off, afraid of being rode down. The horse starting at the sight of the pitcher, threw the King, who was so bruised with the fall, and the weight of his armour, that he fainted away. This disaster happening within a few yards of a miln, from which the village derives its name, the miller and his wife carried him into the miln ; and, though ignorant of his name and station, treated him with great humanity, administering to him such cordials as their house could afford. When the King had recovered a little, he called for a priest, to whom, as a dying man, he might make confession. Those about him,

demanding who he was, he replied, "I was your King this morning." By this time, some of the malecontents, who, having observed the King's flight, had left the battle to pursue him, were come up to the place, and as they were passing, the miller's wife, clapping her hands, with astonishment and grief, called out, that if there was any priest among them, he would instantly stop and confess the King.

"I am a priest," said one of them, "lead me to his Majesty." This person being introduced, found the King lying in a corner of the milln, covered with a coarse cloth; and, approaching him on his knees, under pretence of respect, while treachery filled his heart, asked him, if he thought he could recover, if he had the help of proper physicians? James having answered in the affirmative, the ruffian pulled out a dagger, and stabbed him to the heart. The name of the person is not certainly known; nor would the discovery add much to the stock of historical knowledge. Buchanan says, that three persons pursued the King, and that these were Lord Gray, Stirling of Keir, and a priest named Borthwick, one of whom gave him the fatal stroke. This, however, is by no means probable with respect to Lord Gray, whose

high command in the field of battle, at that very time, was likely to require all his attention.

THE place where this barbarity was committed, is well known in that neighborhood by the name of *Beaton's miln*, said to be so called from the person who at that time possessed it; it is yet standing, tho' now converted into a dwelling-house, new and more commodious milns having been erected near it. The lower parts of its walls are still the same which received the unfortunate James. The stones wear the marks of antiquity, being much mouldered by the weather in the course of so many ages. The upper part of the fabric has been renewed, and the reparations that it hath undergone seem to have had no other design than to perpetuate the memory of that tragical event, the circumstances of which have been so carefully handed down by tradition, that they are still related by the inhabitants of the village, and perfectly correspond to the accounts which we meet with in the best historians.

AFTER the King's flight, his troops continued to fight with great bravery; but at last, finding themselves unable to stand their ground any longer, and discouraged

by an uncertain rumour of his death, they began to retreat towards STIRLING. They were not hotly pursued, for hostilities immediately ceased. The army of the confederates lay that night upon the field, and next day marched to LINLITHGOW. The number of the slain, upon both sides, must have been considerable; for the action lasted several hours, and was well maintained by the combatants on both sides; and some of high rank fell on the side of the royalists, among whom was the Earl of Glencairn.

WHEN the Prince, who, before the battle, had given a strict charge concerning the safety of his father's person, heard the rumour of his death, he was deeply affected; but it was not till some days after, that he obtained the certainty thereof; for if any of the confederate Lords were in the secret; they kept it carefully from the Prince, and from the rest. A report was spread that he had gone on board Admiral Wood's ships, and was still alive; but the Admiral being called before the young King and the council, declared that he knew nothing of his late master. So little had this Prince been accustomed to his father's company, that he was almost a stranger to his person; for, when Wood appeared be-

fore him, struck with his stately appearance, or perhaps with some resemblance he bore to the late King, he seriously asked him, “ Sir, are you my father ? ” To which the Admiral, bursting into tears, replied, “ I am not your father, but I was your father’s true servant.” At last the body of the King was discovered, and carried to the palace in STIRLING castle, where it lay till it was interred, with all due honor, in the burial place of CAMBUSKENNETH, near to that of his Queen, who had died not long before. The inhabitants of that place still pretend to shew a spot in which a King and Queen are said to be buried ; but no monument is to be seen. This battle was fought upon the 11th of June 1488, and was called the Field of STIRLING.

THE confederate Lords endeavoured to atone for their treatment of their late sovereign, by their loyalty and duty towards his son, whom they instantly placed upon the throne. They deemed it also requisite, for their future security, to have a parliamentary indemnity for their proceedings. Accordingly, in a parliament that met soon after, they obtained a vote, by which all that had been done in the Field of STIRLING was justified, and declared to have been lawful, on account of the ne-

cessity they lay under of employing force against the King's evil counsellors, the enemies of the kingdom. This vote, in the records, is called, "The proposition of the debate of the Field of STIRLING."

THE far greater part of the nation, upon the south side of the Tay, soon acknowledged the authority of the new King: and the castles of EDINBURGH and STIRLING were yielded up to him. Sir John Lundie was made governor of STIRLING, in preference to Shaw, whose late treachery had rendered him detestable, even to the party whose interest he intended to serve; the usual and just reward of perfidy.

THE northern clans, who had adhered to the late King, did not so speedily submit to the present, but entered into a combination to revenge his death upon those who had taken up arms against him, and who were still thought to keep his son a sort of captive among them. In the beginning of next year, Lord Forbes made a tour through the northern shires, to excite the inhabitants to join in the enterprize; and he accompanied his arguments with an address to their passions, by displaying the bloody shirt of the murdered King upon the point of a lance. At the same time, the Earl of

Lennox, who had espoused the same cause, raised his vassals and retainers, to the number of two thousand, and marched northward, in order to form a junction with Forbes; but, as the King and the confederate Lords were in possession of STIRLING, he crossed the Forth several miles above that town; and, night coming on, encamped on the confines of Menteith, in a field adjoining to Tilly-moss, which is now called Moss-Flanders, though the ancient name is still preserved in Sashen-tilly milns in its neighbourhood. Having no suspicion of danger, and intending to proceed in his march early next morning, he lay in a careless posture, and even had not been so cautious as to set a regular watch. This tempted one M'Kalphine to form a treacherous design; he stole away to STIRLING, and gave information of the place where the Earl was encamped, and of the careless posture in which he lay; upon which John Drummond, steward of Strathern, one of the chief of the confederates, quickly setting out with a considerable body of men, surprised the unwary Earl, and, with little bloodshed, dispersed his army.

THE northern clans, hearing of the defeat of Lennox, immediately submitted to

the new King, and the whole kingdom soon united in acknowledging his authority; and, as a sort of penance for the unnatural part he had acted towards his father, that monarch, according to the superstitious notions of those times, ever after wore an iron girdle upon his body, to which a link was added every year; so that, if he had lived to old age, it must have become very ponderous.

THE mutual confidence which sprung up in the bosoms of James and his nobles, was but too fatally terminated by his untimely death, and the almost total extinction of their order, on the field of FLOWDEN. This woeful event is pathetically lamented in a popular song, the melody of which is soothing and tender in the extreme:

O dool for the order sent our lads to the border!
 The English for ance by guile gat the day:
 The flowers o' the Forest that ay shone the foremost,
 The prime o' our land lies cauld in the clay.
 "We'll hear nae mair liltin at our ewes milkin:
 The women and bairns are dowie and wae.
 Sighen and moanin on ilka green loanin,
 Sin' our braw foresters are a' wede away."

How so many of the Scottish nobility happened to fall in the battle of FLOWDEN field, is accounted for by our historians in the following manner: James, whose re-

Battle of Sauchie Burn.

mantic ideas of honor had led him to give battle to the English, while in fond dalliance he wasted time in the arms of a fair captive, neglected his army, which having advanced into NORTHUMBERLAND, with fire and sword, was on its return with an immense booty, impatient of reaching home ; and being in a barren wild, where every comfort necessary for the field was wanting, the common soldiers deserted the royal standard, and stole off with their spoils, before their commanders were aware of the dangers to which they were exposed by such dastardly conduct. To this may be added the disaffection of Lord Hume, who, together with his vassals, retired early from the field of battle. The nobles, however, faithful to their beloved sovereign, shared in the dangers to which his imprudencies had exposed him, rather than abandon him in such critical circumstances ; when few, comparatively speaking, but their immediate dependants, followed their example, and met their untoward fate.

BEFORE concluding this head, we will present our readers with a short summary of several other battles, besides those already mentioned, which took place at dif-

ferent periods, and are proper to be recorded here, as all of them happened within view of the place that we are now surveying.

INTERESTING FIELDS OF BATTLE

WITHIN VIEW OF STIRLING CASTLE.

1. TORWOODHEAD S. S. E. about six miles. A little to the southward is DUNIPACE, at which the river Carron, previous to the erection of bridges, was most easily fordable. This passage must have often been disputed between the ancient Scots and their invaders, it being in the vicinity of the Roman wall, at a small distance from the great stations of CAMELON, and even CASTLECARRY. In the fourth century we are told a great battle ensued there betwixt the united army of Picts and Scots, and that of the Romans; after a terrible slaughter on both sides, victory remained with the latter, whose legions were too much shattered to turn it to much advantage. Here too, is the celebrated round, conical hill, DUNIPACE, Duna bas Celtic, (the b sounding like our p,) the hill of death, it is probably a sepulchral monument. This too, is the scene of many encounters, in which Macpherson's heroes, Oscar, &c. make a figure.

2. ABOUT eight miles N. E. (of the castle)
K

tle,) and delightfully situated at the foot of the Ochil hills, is ALVA, where some large upright stones are to be seen, marking a field of blood, where the Picts were defeated by the Scots. About a mile or two S. E. of these, are similar monuments.

3. ABOUT fourteen miles directly E. (of the castle,) is CASTLEHILL or CASTLE LAW, where, it is supposed, stood the castle of Macduff. Here a great battle betwixt an invading Danish army, and that of SCOTLAND, was fought, in which the former was defeated with immense slaughter.—Many monumental stones, like those above-mentioned, still mark this scene of carnage.

4. Ten miles S. E. may be observed some rising ground, betwixt the Carron iron works and FALKIRK. There, at a place now called Mungal, as also at Bainsford, (corrupted from Briansford, from the circumstance of Brian Lejay, master of the English Templars, having there fallen,) was fought in 1298, the great battle of FALKIRK, between the English armies under Edward I. and the Scots under Wallace and Sir J. Stewart, brother of the high steward. The latter were defeated with prodigious slaughter; Trivet says, with the loss of twenty thousand men; the

Scots historians allow ten thousand. The account most probably exaggerated—seeing very few Scottish barons or leading men were present, their army could not exceed thirty thousand, if so numerous.

5. At a good distance to the N. W. is to be seen Dalry, i. e. King's field, where Bruce, some years previous to the battle of BANNOCKBURN, sustained a defeat from the followers of Macdougall, Lord of Lorne, led by their chief. Bruce's expulsion for a time, from SCOTLAND, was the consequence of this route of his followers.

6. About eight or nine miles S. are seen the summits of a range of hills called Denny muir, (or 'Tak me down hill,) on the southern declivity of which, near the present reservoir for supplying the great canal, was fought, in 1645, the battle of KILSYTH, by the royalists under Montrose, and the covenanters under general Baillie, Argyle, &c. The latter consisting of about seven thousand, were totally routed and almost all put to the sword by the former, who did not exceed one half of the above number. This victory gave to Montrose the command of SCOTLAND.

7. Four miles directly N. is the Sheriff
K 2

muir, where the battle of that name (sometimes called DUNBLANE,) took place in 1715, between the adherents of the house of Stuart, under the Earl of Mar, and the troops of the Hanoverian house, commanded by John Duke of ARGYLE. The right and left wings of each were defeated, but the superior generalship of their leader, secured the advantage to the Hanoverians. This battle secured SCOTLAND to the foreign house.

8. Ten miles S. E. and directly S. of the village of CAMELON, are seen certain rising grounds a mile S. W. of FALKIRK, where, in 1746, about seven thousand English troops under Hawley, were beaten by about the same number of half-armed, undisciplined highlanders, under Prince Charles Stewart.

PRESENT STATE, SCENERY, &c.

OF THE CASTLE.

AFTER passing the Argyle buildings, you approach an open space through which the main road leads to the Castle, between safe parapetted walls. On the left of this space is situated the Grammar Classical School, a very fine commodious house for the purpose; and, close to it, is an ascent of hewn stone stairs; ascending which, you get a sudden view of the beautiful and romantic seat of the *Castellum Strivilense*, now called STIRLING Castle. As we confine ourselves, in this fugitive publication, to descriptions of particulars, we shall not enter here upon the history of Scotia, connected with this Castle, but merely to its descriptive position. On arriving at the top of the stairs above-mentioned, turn east, west, north or south, the view is surpassingly sublime—A beautiful well-laid-down Esplanade, safely parapetted all around, gives the eye an agreeable space, over which to direct your steps to the venerable seat of Scotia's royal antiquity. During the approach to its draw-bridge and moat, the eye wanders, in spite of

itself, on the glorious unconquer'd Gram-pians, billowing towards the north, in rear of the Castle, from which branches eastward the no less admired Ochil hills, whose bases are most delightfully spotted with elegant villas, neat farm-houses, and attractive villages; the centre crown'd Miat commanding the range, where no one who visits STIRLING for any residentiary time, can expect to be well received, unless with a party of friends, bless'd with the elegance of the female sex, he pays his devoirs, on the top of that enchanting summit, to the genius of rural romantic scenery, with silent mental adoration of the omnipotent Giver of all good.

STIRLING CASTLE is entered over a draw-bridge, on the right of which is a very commodious castlelated Guard-House; on the left, the Straw-House, for the accommodation of the troops' beddings. Turning towards the right, you pass over a bridge of the second moat, onwards towards a third gate. In this passage, on your right, is the French Spur Battery, so called from an engineer of FRANCE being employed by Queen Anne in the execution of it. Over the second gate you pass, is a very commanding battery, called the Over-port Battery. As you advance towards the

third gate, or first of departure from the Castle, you see, on the left, a very inviting Garden, formed on the solid rock, at much pains and expense. In passing through the third gate, you come in view of the east side of the Castle; and, standing on a very well-laid-down Parade, on the pointed tops of basaltic rocks, you cannot but admire the stateliness and solemnity of the buildings of hewn stone well cemented, whose walls are twenty-two feet thick; its architrave, composed of angels' heads and wings, is highly praised by Antiquarians, and men of taste of the modern days; its fluted pillars, of most curious construction and design, do infinite honor to the designer and architect of the days in which it was erected. On the east of this lower parade, and in front of the Castle, stands the grand commanding 12 pr. Battery, with its little assistant, a triangle 9 pr. Battery, part traversing the direct fire of his able brother. Near this triangle, is a handsome Main Guard-House, with rooms over-head for the Royal Invalid Artillery, and on the north side of the battery, the Master Gunner's house, and Storehouse, the latter having been the old Royal Brewery—two dark spots on the hemisphere of this luminous seat of antiquity! Over the third gate you pass into this

square, is a very fine parapetted Reservoir, for supply of celestial water to a fine Tank, nearly central between the Castle and Grand battery; in the centre of which, is erected a frame, on a very ingenious construction, supporting a Flag Staff seventy-two feet from its base to cap; and has the honor of waving his Majesty's flag, at the height of 127 feet from the parade. The north side of the parade also presents to your eye the southern gable of the Parliament House: the *tout ensemble* extremely pleasing to a stranger; as has been admitted by the vast numbers who were compelled to rove towards the romantic, delightful scenery of SCOTLAND, when tyranny had shut all foreign ports against their excursions.

ADVANCING from this parade, you approach, through a very neat modern arch, into the upper Parade, where your eye is struck with the venerable appearance of the grand front of the Palace; at the east corner of which, stands the statue of James V. who built it: as also, the front of the old Parliament-House; the old Chapel Royal, now only containing its last remnant of antiquity, the famous Rev. John Knox's pulpit, as respected by beholders, as the Rev. assistant Father of the Reformation

was by his admirers. *Tempora mutantur et nos mutamur in Ellis*, (the times change, and we change with them.) This Chapel has, for a very considerable time, been converted into a Store for his Majesty's Deposits; it contains a neat Armoury, with Armourer's conveniencies, &c. Next to the Chapel, on its west, is the Governor's House, undoubtedly erected on the foundations of the famous Roman general Agricola's fort; for no farther did he proceed in his strenuous, but happily defeated purposes, of conquering CALEDONIA. The west side, completing the Square, contains Officers' apartments. In the rear of the Governor's house, is his Flower Garden, a sweet retired spot, on the very top of the rock, 300 feet above the level of the Forth, perpendicular, two sides of which contains that height of defensive wall, called the Prince's Lines; a most commanding position in case of siege: the view from its battlements is truly enchanting; containing a most extensive view from Benvenue W. to Berwick Law, S. E. on a fine clear day, over the wild romantic scenery of the greater part of the Grampians, the entire range of Ochils, and the rich carse lands of FALKIRK and STIRLING, whose golden autumnal harvests give delight to the eye, and inexpressible pleasure

to the soul, in contemplating the wonderful works of providence, nature, and rural industry.

RETURNING from the Governor's garden, you pass along the parade, through an entrance of the castle defended by a strong massive door, to the west part of the Castle, called the Ladies' Look-out; being their station to view the tilts and tournaments, held by the royal families of old, at the now respected undisturbed spot, called the King's Knot. This western view is unspeakably fine, discovering Ben Lomond, the majesty of the Grampians, in all his glory, with a faint glimmer in the rear of the high mountains of ARGYLE-SHIRE: you have also a distinct view of the classical ground attached to this venerable pile, the glorious scenes of Wallace and of Bruce; who, like our Wellington and Lyndoch, endeavoured to obstruct tyranny in its ambitious career. From the Ladies' Look-out Line, you pass through a long dark passage of the Castle, on the left of which, is that part called the Lion's Den, from a supposition, that the royal family of the James's there kept their royal bestial prisoners: in going into it, you there see the form of the Castle, being an oblong square, and the thickness of the

walls twenty-two feet. After you pass through this long entry, you cross the lower court, down to that part of its defence, called the Nether Baillie; where his Majesty's Powder Magazines, of most safe and peculiar construction, are erected, with a very strong and commodious Guard House for their protection. The rampart lines around this space of ground, afford a very pleasing, refreshing walk in fine weather; but not with that commanding effect of surprise the higher positions cause. Returning from thence through the lower court, you pass through the first gate of departure, and turn to the right by the Governor's garden, to that rampart attached to the Overport battery, where the officers of the garrison pay their compliments to each other, enjoy the purity of the air, traversing it, with social converse of the days that are past, and occasionally admiring the changes of the atmosphere, astonishingly rapid at times, through the course of the day. Here a moonlight scene is truly delightful, by drawing a contrast between the night and day aspect of the Grampians, &c. From the S. W. angle of this rampart, the ground of thirteen counties of SCOTLAND is visible in a fine clear day in harvest, being the best season to visit STIRLING's scenery. From this

position, you have a clear distinctive view of the Sugar Loaf Tintock, a hill of LANERKSHIRE, sixty-two miles distant : and strong observation of many years residence confirms the idea, that it proves a correct sympathetic barometer ; as, when seen from that position, a fine clear atmosphere succeeds for some time ; and, on the reverse, when EDINBURGH Castle is apparent and distinct to the eye, wet weather is the immediate result. From this spot, where many an adieu has been bid, you traverse the ground of your advance, pass the barrier gate, cross the top of the esplanade, and descend to the admired Promenade, called The BACK WALK.

STIRLING CASTLE constituted one of the Scottish constabularies, of which the family of Mar was the hereditary constable. After this distinction had ceased, the Earls of Mar continued governors, until that family ceased to have a political existence.

THE officers belonging to it now, are a governor, his place, a military sinecure, worth nearly one thousand pounds, arising from his salary, and from the rents of lands still attached to the old constabulary, A

lieutenant governor, major, and fort-major, with barrack and store-masters, chaplain, invalid artillerists, and other inferior officers.

THE Castle was for a long time garrisoned by invalids, first embodied by Mary of Lorrain, whose uniform they continued to wear, untill they were, in 1803, incorporated in the veteran battalions. It is now garrisoned by the regulars or militia, as the state of the country requires.

THE barracks are now capable of containing about 800 men, a number sufficient to defend the Castle in any emergency whatever.

TOWN OF STIRLING.



STIRLING, the chief town of the shire of that name, is situated in 56 degrees, 12 minutes north latitude, and 3 degrees, 50 minutes west longitude. The approach to it from the south, is said to bear some resemblance to EDINBURGH; but unless we consider the castles of both towns being situated upon rocks, as sufficient to raise in the imagination a resemblance, it can hold good in no other respect. Even in this particular there is a material difference; for the rock on which EDINBURGH castle stands, is entirely insulated, having no other in its neighborhood: whereas, on the contrary, though the rock is insulated whereon STIRLING castle is situated; yet the chasm which separates the rocks on which the fortifications are erected, is so narrow, that it hardly interrupts the chain

of rocks that stretches to the water's edge at the bridge over the Forth. Round this eminence, on the southern ridge of which, the town is built, a WALK is conducted with great art and admirable contrivance, that commands prospects of which language cannot convey any idea that would not fall infinitely short of the grandeur which is every where presented to view.

A rude seat is erected, on the back part of which, Mr Edmonston's name appears, with the date when this path was constructed, anno 1723; and lengthened, greatly improved, and finished, under the direction of the magistrates, in 1791.

THE BACK WALK.

DEVOID of feeling must the mind be, that does not enjoy the sensations which the objects to be met with in Edmonston's walks are calculated to raise. Let not any such ascend the craggy wilds round which this path is conducted; in vain, to him, doth nature spread forth her grandeur, in rude, sublime, and fantastic forms; he feels not their impressive force; they awaken not in his bosom the glow of senti-

ment and association of ideas, whence the mental feast of pure delight is furnished.

To view with advantage the prospects commanded from Edmonston's walks, we ought to enter them where they begin, and proceed as they ascend through the woody precipice, till we gain the summit, and clear the umbrage; when, all at once, the Grampian mountains burst into view. An extensive plain, brown, and seemingly barren, spreading from beneath these mountains, wherein glimpses of the river Teith, in its approach to the Forth, are caught, forms a fine contrast to the solemn gloom of the distance; if haply streams of floating light skim along, in movements slow, gradual, and almost imperceptible, the effect must be impressive in a high degree; and if, at the same time, as is often the case, particularly in the morning early, the mist ascend the bosom of the mountains, while the top cliffs catch vividly the sun's rays, and reflect them with so mild a lustre as to harmonize and enliven the whole, associations are raised in the mind of beauty and sublimity blended in one vast whole, comprehending the true characteristics of Scottish scenery on the greatest possible scale. The stupenduous heights that bound the horizon, are skreened by

two lesser ridges, which run nearly parallel in the direction of north-east towards STIRLING, and inclose the extensive plain already noticed, called the Vale of Monteith. This vale, in many parts, is highly cultivated, and consists of soil various and fertile. In other parts, as may naturally be supposed, particularly towards the foot of the mountains, the soil becomes more and more sterile, till woods and rocks forbid the farther efforts of man's industry; but man's ingenuity scorns the admonition, and makes even rocks and woods contribute to the supply of his wants; for the minerals in these mountains are rich and abundant; and the woods yield to their wealthy proprietors liberal sums for bark and charcoal; particularly those on the estates belonging to Drummond of PERTH, the Earl of MORAY, and the Duke of MONTROSE, to whom the principal range of the mountains in view belongs.

THE walk now drawing near to the castle, the stranger's curiosity prompts him to leave it for some time, to contemplate those views, which, for their extent, variety, and picturesque beauty, have challenged the admiration of all who have had the pleasure of beholding them. Crossing a small valley, and ascending a commodious

flight of stairs, we enter a large square in front of the castle ; here a view, unparalleled in BRITAIN, bursts, as it were by enchantment, upon the astonished sight. The mind is bewildered and lost in amazement, in the delightful scenery now expanded to the view ; and it is some time before it can contemplate with composure, the several parts which form this magnificent picture.

WE behold, spread under the eye, a plain of vast extent*, called the Carse, through which the windings of the Forth form the most interesting part of the prospect. The ample sweeps of the river, which is navigable as far as the bridge, give the mind an idea of utility as well as grandeur. The searching eye can discern, in almost every creek and peninsula, decayed edifices, modern mansions, snug farm houses, hamlets, villages, and towns, amid corn-fields, meadows, and inclosures, floating indistinctly on the view, till all seems lost in aerial tints, and is hardly to be perceived where the extreme verge of the horizon melts into the azure of the remotest distance. The most striking object in the middle ground,

* Said to be upwards of sixty miles in length, and in many parts from ten to fifteen miles in breadth.

is the ruins of CAMBUSKENNETH ABBEY, the tower of which, the ruthless hand of fanaticism, during the first violent paroxysms of *religious reformation*, seems to have spared.

To the left of the Abbey, a range of rocks, called the Abbey Craigs, rising abruptly from the water's edge, beneath the brow of the highest hill, forms a bold feature of the prospect. Immediately behind this, the vale of Devon (sheltered from the north winds by the Ochil hills, which extend in a north-easterly direction, till, with little interruption, they fall into the German ocean) is seen, richly cultivated, and adorned with woods and verdure. At the entrance of this valley, ALLOA, a sea port of considerable trade, is situated. From ALLOA the eye is attracted to CLACKMANNAN TOWER, the place in which, till of late, with due veneration, a sword and helmet, said to have belonged to Robert de Bruce, were preserved, as relics of that celebrated hero.

DESCENDING from the square, and resuming our walk round the base of the castle, at every step we meet with something to admire ; the jutting rocks, that seem ready to precipitate themselves from their mouldering connexion with each other : the

rugged appearance of the steep beneath us: the curious remains of artificial grandeur in the mount of earth, in form somewhat like a table, round which, as tradition records, royal carousals were held with the highest splendor and magnificence. This spot was the centre of the royal gardens; and goes by the name of the King's Knot. The extensive park behind the gardens, called the King's Park, where the deer for royal sport were first turned off, though now dismantled of its wood, exhibits a fine range for field exercises. Craigforth too, wooded to the top, on whose acclivity the mansion house of Col. Callander is seen, sheltered among rising plantations and aged trees: these objects, and many others, which the curious eye will delight to dwell on in its range, are calculated to recal to remembrance past vicissitudes, and to awaken a train of pleasing ideas in the mind of one accustomed to reflection. As we proceed, we get directly under the walls of the fortress, which threatens to crush by its fall any assailants that may be bold enough to attempt a breach on this side. On turning round the base of the hanging precipice, we find the river directly under our eye; and here it is that the salmon-fishing is carried on, which is so lucrative to those concerned in it at STIRLING.

From this point also, the opening into the highlands through DUNBLANE, (formerly a bishop's see) is to be discerned; and through this glen, the Allan, a stream tributary to the Forth, takes its course. In this opening, and on the adjacent eminences, groups of trees and woody mosses are judiciously planted in the pleasure-grounds around the family seats on the greater branch of the Forth, the river Teith, whose confluz with it is within a short distance of Craigforth, already noticed. At the end of the walk is situated

THE GOWLING HILLS.

Mr Timothy Pont, who surveyed this country about 250 years ago, says, that there is a rock in these hills, having an inscription on it, informing that the eleventh legion kept watch and were stationed there. It lies on the brow of that steep ridge that runs from the castle towards the bridge; but is now very much defaced; probably as much by the operations of the curious to decipher it, as by the revolutions of so many ages.

UPON the northern extremity of these

Gowling Hills.

hills, near the bridge, is a small mount, well known in the neighborhood by the uncouth name of Hurly-haaky, surrounded at the top with a parapet of earth, and having other remains of artificial works upon it. Upon this mount, Duncan Earl of Lennox, with his son-in-law Murdoch Duke of Albany, who had been sometime governor of the realm, were beheaded, May 18th 1425, as were Walter and Alexander Stewarts, sons of that Duke, the day following. No historian specifies the crime for which they suffered; we are only informed that it was for high crimes and misdemeanours, which has led some to conclude, that they had been guilty of crimes too gross to be mentioned; but it hath tempted others to conjecture, that the great estates of Lennox, Monteith, and Fyfe, of which they were possessed, and which, by their forfeiture, fell to the crown, were the causes of their sufferings. They were, indeed, tried and condemned by a jury, composed of some of the principal men of the nation: but, it is well known, that, in those days, state-trials were commonly little more than mere formalities, and sentence was often pronounced upon general charges, without evidence, and sometimes without examination of witnesses, they were a kind of os-

tracism, practised by the court, when it wished to get rid of a powerful subject, or possess the estate of an opulent one. The court, in which the trial proceeded, was held in the castle, and the whole was carried on under the immediate eye of James I. who was present with an uncommon majesty, being seated upon a throne, with his robes, crown, and sceptre; and the sentence appears to have been highly acceptable to him. From the lamentations heard on the hills on account of these executions, it is supposed they came to be called the GOWLING HILLS.

In ancient times, courts for the administration of justice were generally held in the open fields, and judgment was both given and executed in the same place. In every earldom, and almost in every barony and jurisdiction of any considerable extent, there was a particular place allotted for that purpose. It was generally a small eminence, either natural or artificial, near the principal mansion-house, and was called the mote-hill; or, in latin, *Mons placiti*. In that place, all the vassals of the jurisdiction were obliged to appear at certain times, and the superior gave judgment in such causes as fell within the powers committed to him by law or custom. In the

Bridge.

same spot too, the gallows was ordinarily erected for the execution of capital sentences; hence these places commonly go by the name of *gallows knoll*. Near the royal palaces there was usually a mote hill, where all the freeholders of the kingdom met together, both to transact public affairs, and to do homage to their sovereign, who was seated upon the top of the eminence. The mote hill at Scoon is at this day universally known. It is highly probable that Hurly-haaky was the mote hill of the castle of STIRLING, or perhaps of a much larger jurisdiction. In 1360, a deadly feud, which had long subsisted between the Drummonds and Menteiths, at that time two of the most powerful families in Perthshire, and who had been the cause of much rapine & bloodshed, was composed by the interposition of Sir Robert Erskine and Sir Hugh Eglinton, the two great justiciaries of the nation, in this neighborhood, if not upon this very mount. Our authority says, “*Super ripam aquae de Forth, juxta Strivelyn.*” At the back of the mote-hill is

THE BRIDGE.

THE first bridge was built of wood, and
M

it is believed to have been much higher up than the present one. There is evidently, at a place called Kildean, on the estate of Craigforth, appearances in the river, that indicate that a bridge once stood there. The figure of the old bridge is preserved in the town jail; it is built on piles of wood, drove into the bed of the river, and has no side walls; in the centre stands a crucifix, having armed warriors on each side of it. The following distich is upon it:

*Anglos a Scotis separat crux ista remotis,
Hic armis Bruti. Scoti stant hic cruce tuti.*

Which is thus translated by Bellenden:

I am free marche, as passengers may ken,
To Scottis, to Britonis, and to Inglismen.

THE present stone bridge had likewise, originally, no side walls; on examining it minutely, the side walls appear much newer than the body of the bridge. During the rebellion in 1745, the arch nearest the town was cut through by order of general Blackney, to prevent the highlanders from passing that way. It consists of four arches, the breadth of the river is about seventy yards, and the bridge, like all the old ones,

is in every respect inelegant, and far from being commodious: at what time it was built is uncertain. In so fine a county, in which public spirit is so manifest on every occasion, it would do honor to those concerned in carrying on public works, to set about one of such utility as a bridge: the erection, and that speedily, of a bridge suitable to the taste and knowledge of the times, substantial, convenient, and in a style of architecture elegant and stately, is therefore most earnestly pressed upon their notice.

THE RIVER FORTH,

of which so much mention hath been made, has its source from a spring in the northern side of Benlomond, near the summit of the mountain. It traverses STIRLINGSHIRE for ten miles from its source, under the appellation of the Water of Deuchray, augmented, as it proceeds, by numberless mountain streams. It then enters PERTSHIRE, where it receives an accession equal to the volume of its own waters, in the river which issues from Lochard in Aberfoyle. It there assumes the name of the Avendow, or Black River. After a course

of about five miles, it again joins STIRLINGSHIRE below Gartmore house, where it obtains the name of Forth, which it henceforth retains.

FROM this point, the Forth uniformly bounds the county of STIRLING on the north, except in a few instances, of some isolated tracts which lie to the north of that river.

A few miles above STIRLING, the Teath or Teith, the Taichus of the historian Buchannan, and the Avon Thaich of the highlanders, a large and beautiful river rising in PERTHSHIRE, notwithstanding its undeniable superiority, sinks both its waters and its name in the Forth.

As far as STIRLING, the river is navigable to vessels of about 70 tons burden; but this navigation is rendered extremely inconvenient by the numerous windings (here called *links*) of the Forth. The line of the river from ALLOA is reckoned near twenty miles; whilst the distance, in a direct line, is scarcely seven.

AFTER a course of about eight miles from STIRLING bridge, the river stretches out into a firth of several miles in breadth,

Argyle's Lodging.

affording facilities for navigation and for commerce, upon an enlarged scale.

PROCEEDING from the castle towards the bottom of the town, the first object we meet with, worth attention, is an ancient building, on the left, known to the citizens by the name of

ARGYLE'S LODGING.

It was built in 1633, and finished in 1674, and exhibits a most complete view of the mode of architecture in practice at that æra. It was the residence of Sir William Alexander of MENSTRIE, secretary of state to Charles I. who created him Earl of STIRLING. The family of ARGYLE afterwards possessed it. John, Duke of ARGYLE, resided here in 1715, when his army lay encamped in the King's Park. It successively came to other hands, and was subset to tenants until 1799, when government bought it from the private possessors to whom it then belonged, and converted it into a military hospital. At the head of the High-street are the ruins of a palace of good workmanship, called

MARR'S WORK,

having been begun by John, Earl of Mar, when regent, anno 1572. The stones with which it was built, were brought from the ruins of the monastery of CAMBUSKENNETH. It was never finished. In the front wall are these lines :

The moir I stande on oppin hitht,
My favlts moir svbject are to sitht.

And over a door, this modest apology,

I praiy al lvikaris on this begin,
Wi genteil eie to mark thair ligin.

A variety of figures of men and animals standing out from the walls adorned this building. In front are the arms of the Kings of SCOTLAND, and over one gate those of the regent Mar, and over another those of his wife.

THE HIGH CHURCH,

immediately adjoining Mar's work, consists

of a long pile of gothic architecture, divided into two places of worship, erected in different ages. The west church is the most ancient. It was built by James IV. in 1494, and given to the Franciscans, or Grey Friars. It is seldom used at present, excepting when military are in the town or castle, when the chaplain of the garrison or his deputy preaches to them there on the forenoons of Sunday. This church has not so noble an appearance as its consort: it used to be the burial ground of the higher ranks of people in STIRLING; and the earth, both within and without, has gained many feet on the walls.

A plain marble tablet was placed, some years ago, to the memory of Colonel Blackader, late lieutenant governor of STIRLING castle; a singularly good man, and a gallant officer: whose memoirs have been lately published at EDINBURGH, and ought to be perused by every military man, both on account of its military information, and its exemplary spirit. It is as follows:

Near this place
Are deposited the remains
Of a brave Soldier, and devout
Christian,
JOHN BLACKADER, Esq.

Late Lieutenant-Colonel of the Cameronian
Regiment.

He served under the Duke of Marlborough
In Queen Anne's wars,
And was present at most of the
Engagements in that reign.
He died Deputy Governor of
STIRLING CASTLE,
In August MDCCXXIX,
Aged LXV years.

THE EAST CHURCH

was erected by Cardinal Beaton, in the year 1543. It is a noble gothic fabric, and in a fine state of preservation. James VI. of that name, afterwards sovereign of the British empire, received in this church his native sceptre. The interior of this church was new seated, anno 1803, in a substantial, and not an inelegant stile: though any thing like ornament has been most scrupulously avoided. The original gothic structure of the pillars which support the roof, is, much to the credit of those concerned, preserved.

At repairing the church, a tomb-stone, buried many feet deep, was discovered, in

memory of one Alexander Gray. The following couplet is on it :

Here lies Alexander Gray, of honest race
and fame,
He lived in honour, and he died the same.

This tomb-stone is dated in 1571. Thus the memory of Alexander Gray, who perhaps was a person of some consideration in his day, is revived by mere accident, after an oblivion of two centuries ; but the honesty of his race, and his name, are altogether forgotten. In the chancel was the tomb of Margaret Stewart, a very young married lady. The tomb-stone gives her history in latin ; Englished thus :

In memory of
MARGARET STEWART,
Grand-daughter of James V. King of Scots,
Daughter to the
Earl of Murray, Regent,
And Anne Keith a lady of quality ;
Wife to the Earl of Arrol.
She died of a distemper, upon Sabbath
The second April,
In the year of our Lord, MDLXXXVI,
In the xvi year of her age.

“ The Lord, who alone united us, has part-
“ ed us by death.”

THE husband of this young lady, either soon obtained another title, or is a personage so little known in that turbulent age, that no historian notices him. The author of the epitaph has endeavored to mask the spuriousness of the lady's birth in two descents, by the grandeur of her origin.

THE Church-yard lies contiguous to the west church. There is only one tomb-stone more ancient than the 17th century.

A plain neat marble slab is placed in the south wall of the tower, to the memory of Lieutenant Marcus Mar of the 71st Regiment, then quartered in the castle. It was written and composed by Doctor Doig, with that elegance and simplicity of diction, of which he was so remarkable a master.

Near this stone
Lie the remains of
LIEUTENANT MARCUS MAR,
Of the 71st Regiment of Foot ;
Who died
September MDCCXCIX : aged xxvii.
A Soldier
Of undaunted bravery,
Unaffected modesty, and unblemished
Honor.
To whose memory,

East Church.

In testimony of their esteem and affection,
His brother officers have consecrated
This monument.

*Dignum laude virum,
Fama vitet mori.*

In a few months after, Doctor Doig himself was laid at Lieutenant Mar's side ; and a marble monument, the tribute of the corporation, to his long and useful life, is placed in the inner court of the east church. The inscription on it was written by the Doctor himself ; but part of it has since been altered. He was master of the Grammar School, here, upwards of forty years. This arduous situation he filled with the highest credit to himself, and the greatest advantage to the many pupils, who, during such a long period, came under his care ; many of whom, at this moment, who are in a civil and military capacity, do credit to themselves, and are an honor to their country ; and not a few are eminent in the church, and in the different branches of literature. His thirst after knowledge was unbounded, his application unexampled, and his acquirements excited universal admiration.

The inscription on his monument run thus :

Fui

DAVID DOIG,

L. L. D. S. S. R. et A. S. E.

Scholæ Latinæ apud Sterlinenses,

Per XL annos præpositus.

Edidici quædam, perlegi plura, notavi

Paucula, cum domino mox peritura suo

Lubrica pieriæ tentâram præmia palmæ

Credulus ingenio heu nimis alta meo

Extincto, famam ruituro crescere saxo.

Posse putem, vivo quæ mihi nula fuit?

Non omnis moriar.—Ridebit munus inane

Carminis et tumuli spiritus alta petens.

Multum desiderato suo ludimagistro

Nuper extincto,

Nunquam non memorando,

Civitas Sterlinensis, L. M. P.

Obiit xvii Kal. April. A. D. MDCCC,

Et anno ætatis LXXXII.

TRANSLATION

I was

DAVID DOIG,

L. L. D. F. R. S. and A. S. E.

Master of the Grammar School of STIRLING,

For the space of forty years.

I studied some subjects with attention ;

I perused books upon many more :

I committed to writing a few things,

East Church.

Destined quickly to perish along with
their author.

Too confident, alas! of the strength of my
powers,

I aspired to the deceitful prize of poetic
fame,

Can I suppose, a celebrity which I possessed
not in life,

Is to arise after death,

From the perishing record of a mouldering
stone?—

My body only dies; my soul,

Ascending to heaven,

Shall despise the empty vanity

Of monumental honors.

To their much respected,

And ever to be remembered Schoolmaster,

Lately deceased,

The Community of STIRLING have erected

This Monument.

He died xvi March, MDCCC, in the LXXXII

Year of his age.

The following is the original copy,

Mortalis hic positæ sunt exuvie

DAVIDIS DOIG,

L. L. D. F. S. R. et A. S. EDIN.

N

Scholæ Latinæ apud STERLINENSES,
 Per XL annos prepositi.
 Obiit xvii Kalend. April : A. D. MDCCC,
 Et anno ætatis LXXXII.

Edidici quædam, perlegi plura, notavi
 Paucula, cum domino mox peritura suo
 Lubrica pieriæ tentâram præmia palmæ
 Credulus, ingenio heu nimis alta meo
 Defuncto, famam ruituro crescere saxo.
 Posse putem, vivo quæ mihi nulla fuit?
 Scire velis qualis fuerim, lux ultima prodet
 Lux eadem prodet tu quoque qualis eras.

THE following translation was found carelessly written, and, seemingly, thrown aside; yet is thought to convey the ideas in the latin one completely.

Some things I con'd with care, yet more I
 read.
 Some few I penn'd, which, with myself,
 are dead;
 The aonian bays to wear, I fondly tried :
 My genius droop'd, and the fair phantom
 died.
 Now that I sleep; will this frail moulder-
 ing stone
 Wide blaze my fame, when, living, I had
 none?—

What kind of man I was, fain wouldst thou
see,

The day of doom will prove both you and
me.

Also, the following Inscription, to the
memory of David Doig, is on a mural tab-
let in the garden of John Ramsay Esq. of
Auchtertyre.

DAVID DOIG!

Dum tempus erit, vale!

Quo desiderio nunc recordor colloquia,
Scenas, itinera, quæ tecum olim habui?

Prope Taichii marginem, ubi læti sæpa
Una erravimus,

Sit mihi pro solatio merita tua
Contemplare.

Tibi puero orbo, ingenui
Igniculos dedit Pater cœlestis.

Tibi etiam grandævo,
Labor ipse erat in deliciis.

Te vix alius doctrinæ ditior,
Nemo edoctus modestior.

Tuo in sermone miti lucebant
Candor, charitas, jucunda virtus,
Ingenii lumine sane gratiora.

Defunctum te dolebant octogenarium
Cives, discipuli, solades.

Venerande Senex!—non omnis extinctus es!
 Anima tua, sperare lubet,
 Paradisum incolit,
 Ibi angelorum ore locutura,
 Ibi per sempiternas sæculorum ætates,
 Scientiæ sitim in terris insatiabilem,
 Ad libitum expletura.

TRANSLATION.

DAVID DOIG,
 Farewell through time!
 With what regret do I now remember
 The conversation, the meals, the journies,
 Which I have had with thee?
 On the banks of Teith;
 Where well pleased we often strayed
 Together,
 Be it my consolation
 To muse upon thy good qualities.
 On thee, an orphan, thy heavenly Father
 Bestowed the seeds of genius:
 To thee, even when well stricken in years,
 Labour itself was delight.
 Than thee few more rich in literature,
 None of the learned more unassuming.
 In thy converse
 Mildly shone candour, kindness,
 Amiable virtue,
 More engaging than the glare of genius.

Tower.

When thou diedst, aged fourscore !
Townsmen, scholars, and companions,
Dropt a tender tear.

Venerable old man !

Thou hast not utterly perished !

Thy soul, we trust, now dwells in heaven,

There to speak the language of angels ;

There, throughout the endless ages

Of eternity,

To gratify to its wish that thirst for

Knowledge

Which could not be satiated

Here, on earth.



THE TOWER,

situated at the west end of the church, is a solid building, and has a warlike appearance. It is about ninety feet in height, and twenty-two feet square ; wearing many marks of bullets shot by the garrison of the castle, to defend themselves against general Monk, who raised his batteries in the church-yard in 1651, and also to annoy the rebels in 1746, who used to fire small arms from the steeple, and rang the bells to tes-

tify their joy for the victory they had gained over the King's troops at FALKIRK. Opposite the Tower, is

COWAN'S HOSPITAL.

THE situation of it is beautiful and romantic. It was built in 1639, having a steeple, with a bell hung in it, and a grotesque figure of the donor standing with his hat in his hand, is in a niche of the spire. It is now converted into two incommodious assembly rooms, in one of which, the Dean of Guild holds his courts. Closely adjoining to it are flower-gardens, and a bowling green, where the inhabitants of the town amuse themselves, with that diversion, in summer evenings. At the east end of the church stands

THE MANSE,

built by Colonel Edmonds, for the senior clergyman, 1603. On one of its windows, he is reminded of his duty, in these words of scripture: "FIED MY SCHIEP." It has the baxters arms escutcheoned on it,

in memory of the original profession of its founder.

THE TOWN HOUSE,

having a steeple, built 1701, stands in the middle of the High Street. There are some paintings in it of their late majesties, George II. and his Queen; presented to the corporation by a late member of Parliament.

THE JUG,

the legal standard of dry measure in SCOTLAND, is still preserved, with due veneration, in the council-house. It contains 103.404 cubic inches, or 3lbs. 7oz. Scots troy weight of clear river water, which are equal to 3lbs. 11oz. 13.44 drams avoirdupois; each cubic inch of this water weighs 253.18 English troy grains. It is made of a sort of yetlin, and appears to be very old. It is mentioned in acts of parliament, as having been in that town before the reign of James II. By act of parliament, February 19th 1618, entitled, "Act anent

settling the weights and measures of SCOTLAND," it is statuted and ordained, that the wheat firloft shall contain twenty-one pints and a mutchkin of the STIRLING Jug; and that the firloft for bear, malt, oats, shall contain thirty-one pints of the same.

THE PRISON

extends backwards from the High street, and fronts St. John's: a new Bridewell, or house of correction, on a large and substantial plan, was lately finished.

ESME STEWART, earl of Lennox, had a noble mansion in the High Street, on the site of the present weigh-house.

HENRY STEWART, Lord Darnley, resided in a house, still to be seen, at the bottom of the High Street, in solitude and disgrace, during the festivity attendant on the baptism of his son. A difference between him and Mary Queen of Scots, his wife, which has given occasion to much historical discussion, was the cause of his retirement.

IN Mary Wynd is an old mansion, which

Streets.

was the residence of John Cowan, the founder of the hospital, and great benefactor of STIRLING. Mary wynd is named in honor of the mother of our Saviour, and leads from the High Street to Bridge Street and the bridge. The Bakers Wynd is the principal street of the place, and extends up hill great part of the length of the town; a narrow lane, called the Bow, connecting it with the High Street. Quality Street (in which an elegant Reading Room and Library, with a neat spire in front, were lately erected,) leads from Bakers Wynd to Melville Place. Spittal Street leads from Quality Street to St John's Street, and the High Church. Cowan Street leads from Friars Wynd and Queen's Street to the Bridge: And Friars Wynd leads from Bakers Wynd to the Shore; and the ruins of the monastery of CAMBUS-KENNETH.

THE

ABBEY OF CAMBUSKENNETH,

AND OTHER RELIGIOUS HOUSES.

IN 1124, David I. the youngest son of Malcolm Canmore, mounted the Scottish throne, which had been successively occupied by three of his brothers before him. This prince is celebrated on account of many valuable qualities. By his valor, he not only defended the kingdom against the hostile attempts of ENGLAND, but made several successful inroads upon that nation; by his wisdom, he established the most salutary laws for the internal government of his own dominions, and the administration of justice amongst his subjects. To him we are indebted for that system of laws, which, from the two first words of it, goes by the name of *Regiam Majestatem*. His military prowess, and political talents, were also accompanied with great ardor of devotion, according to the religious system of those times, which had degenerated into the rankest superstition: this led him so far into the common error of the age, that, by the erection and endowment of religi-



Cambuskenneth Abby.

Abbey of Cambuskenneth

ous houses, in different parts of his dominions, he greatly impoverished the revenues of the crown. Not satisfied with repairing those that were decayed by age, or spoiled by the injuries of war, he raised so many new establishments of that kind, that, if we had not full evidence of his activity in civil and military transactions, we would be induced to believe, that he had employed his whole life in the affairs of religion.

FOUR bishopricks, eleven abbacies, two monasteries, besides sundry small religious fabrics, owed their foundations and first endowments to this prince's mistaken notions of piety; and, in testimony of their gratitude, the clergy, who found their interest so much advanced by the liberality of their sovereign, distinguished him by the title of St David.

CAMBUSKENNETH, which, in process of time, became one of the most opulent and stately of the Scottish abbacies, was founded by that monarch in 1147. It stood half a mile north-east of the town of STIRLING, upon the north bank of the Forth, and in a sort of peninsula formed by that winding river. The adjacent fields had been the scene of some transaction, in which one of those Scottish monarchs, who bore the

name of Kenneth, had been concerned; and from thence the place received the name of CAMBUSKENNETH, which signifieth the field or creek of Kenneth. The situation was both pleasant and convenient, in the midst of a fertile country, where the community could be supplied with all sorts of provisions, grain of every kind, coal, and plenty of fish from the neighboring river.

As soon as the house was fit to receive inhabitants, it was planted with a company of monks or canons regular, who were translated from AROISE, near to ARRAS, in the province of ARTOIS in FRANCE; they were of that order which observed the rules of St Agustine, an order afterwards so numerous in SCOTLAND, as to possess no less than twenty eight monasteries in the kingdom.

THIS erection was sometimes called the monastery of STIRLING, from its vicinity to that town; and the abbots are often designed, in the subscriptions of old charters, abbates de STRIVELING.

During the space of two hundred years after its erection, the monastery was almost every year acquiring fresh additions of

wealth and power, by donations of lands, tithes, patronages of churches, and annuities, proceeding from the liberality of Kings, noblemen, bishops, and barons, besides many rich oblations which were daily made by persons of every rank.

FROM the middle of the fifteenth century, there appears a visible decline of that spirit of liberality to those religious establishments, which, in preceding ages, had been so vigorously exerted by all ranks. Donations became less frequent; and the immense possessions, which cathedrals and monasteries had acquired, began to be considered as public burdens; and that not without cause; for near the one half of SCOTLAND was in possession of ecclesiastics. Several proprietors of land began to withhold payments of the tithes due out of their estates, till they were prosecuted, and decreets were obtained against them in the civil courts. John Lord Fleming, chamberlain of SCOTLAND, under the regency of the Duke of ALBANY, in the minority of James V. relying no doubt, upon his great power and influence, withheld, for seven years, payment of the tithes of his lands in KIRKINTILLOCH, which amounted to thirty-three bolls of meal, and three bolls of barley, yearly. He was prosecuted at the

instance of the community in 1523, and made a composition for bygone arrears, at the rate of eight shillings four pennies Scots per boll. Much about the same time, the feuars and tenants of KILMARNOCK were prosecuted for the tithes of their lands, which amounted to a large quantity of victual yearly.

MUCH civil as well as sacred business was transacted in religious houses. In 1308, Sir Neil Campbell, Sir Gilbert Hay, with other barons, having met at CAMBUSKENNETH, entered into an association to defend the liberty of their country, and the title of Robert Bruce to the crown, against all enemies of whatever nation; to which they not only affixed their subscriptions and seals, but swore upon the great altar.

THE Scottish Kings transacted business almost as often in monasteries as in palaces. Many charters are still extant, which were granted by different sovereigns at CAMBUSKENNETH; it was also the place of the meeting of sundry conventions of parliament.

IN 1326, the whole clergy, earls, and barons, with a great number of an inferior rank, having convened in the Abbey, swore

fealty to David Bruce, as heir apparent to the crown, in presence of Robert his father ; as also to Robert Stewart, grandson of the King, as the next heir, in the event of David's death without issue. At the same time, a marriage was solemnized betwixt Andrew Murray of Bothwell, and Christian Bruce, sister to King Robert.

AT that meeting too, an agreement was entered into betwixt the King on the one part, and the earls, barons, freeholders, and communities of burghs on the other, whereby the King obtained a grant, during his life, of the tenth penny of all the revenues belonging to laymen in the kingdom, both within and without the burghs.

THIS is the first parliament in which burgesses are mentioned, as having a seat. Under the feudal governments, that order of men had long been deemed of too mean a rank to be allowed a place in the national councils. In ENGLAND, however, burgesses had formed a part of the legislative power, near half a century before the reign of Robert Bruce. It is not, indeed, certain, whether as yet they were considered as a constituent part of the legislature in SCOTLAND, or only permitted to vote in what immediately concerned themselves, no ex-

press mention being made of the three estates till the next reign ; but, though they were not, in the reign of Robert, allowed a constant seat in the national council, yet the principles of both policy and equity suggested to that sage monarch, that, when they were to be taxed for the support of government, it was proper they should be called to give their consent, by being represented in that diet of parliament, at least, which taxed them.

DURING the wars with ENGLAND, in the reign of David Bruce, the monastery was pillaged of all its most valuable furniture. The books, vestments, cups, and ornaments of the altar, were carried off. In order to the reparation of that loss, William Deland, bishop of St ANDREWS, made a grant to the community of the vicarage of CLACKMANNAN.

IN 1559, the monastery was spoiled, and a great part of the fabric cast down by the reformers, who, though their views were laudable, yet, in several instances, proceeded to the execution of them in a tumultuary manner : a circumstance almost unavoidable in every revolution. Several of the monks embraced the reformation, but, on that account, had their portions prohibited by the queen-regent.

MONASTERIES were places of such general resort, that they were often the stage of mercantile transactions, as well as of those that were sacred. The great concourse of people that usually assembled around religious houses upon holy days, required provisions for their refreshment. This suggested the idea of a gainful trade to traffickers, who repaired thither, not only with victuals and drink, but also brought along with them different articles of merchandize, which they disposed of amongst the crowd. This was the original of fairs. Hence *feria*, which originally signified a *festival*, came also to signify a *fair*; and the old fairs have generally their name from some popish saint, near whose festival they were held. In 1529, a boat, returning to STIRLING from one of those solemnities at CAMBUSKENNETH, having been overloaded, sunk in the river, whereby fifty persons of rank, besides many others, were drowned.

AFTER the establishment of the reformed religion, James VI. considering himself as proprietor of the temporalities of benefices, that is, the church-lands, erected several abbacies and priories into temporal lordships, in behalf of men of interest, or in high favor, who thereby came to have the same title to those lands which the religi-

ous houses had formerly. But, as the revenues of the crown suffered greatly by those erections, the temporalities of all church benefices were, by an act of parliament in 1587, annexed to the crown. James, notwithstanding, still continued to make new erections, which were declared null in 1592, with an exception of such as had been made in favor of the lords of parliament. After the accession of that monarch to the crown of ENGLAND, the temporalities of CAMBUSKENNETH, together with that of DRYBURGH, and the priory of INCH MAHOME, was conferred on John Earl of Mar, son of the regent; that, to use the terms of the grant, he might be in a better condition to provide for his youngest sons, whom he had by lady Mary Stewart, who was a daughter of the Duke of Lennox, and a relation of his Majesty. The barony of CAMBUSKENNETH, in which the monastery was situated, was settled by the Earl upon Alexander Erskine, one of his sons; upon whose death, without issue, it came to Charles Erskine of ALVA, his brother, whose posterity continued in the possession of it till the year 1709, when it was purchased by the town-council of STIRLING, for the benefit of Cowan's hospital, to which it still belongs.

THE fabric of the abbey was once large and extensive; but nothing of it remains at present, except a few broken walls, and the stair-case that led to the belfry. Some remains of the garden are also to be seen, and the burial-place, where James III. together with his Queen, was interred. No vestige of the church remains. One of the bells belonging to the monastery is said to have been for some time in the town of STIRLING; but, as tradition goes, the finest was lost in the river as they were transporting it.

THE CONVENT OF DOMINICANS,

OR BLACK FRIARS, IN STIRLING.

THE Dominican, which is one of the most considerable orders in the church of ROME, derived that name from its first founder Dominick Guzman, a native of SPAIN, and a zealous preacher against the Albigenses, in the beginning of the thirteenth century. He hath obtained the appellation of saint; but his memory will ever be held in detestation by protestants, and all friends of the liberties of mankind, on account of his having been the contriver of the diabolical court of inquisition.

THIS order was brought into SCOTLAND in the reign of Alexander II. and spread with so great rapidity, that in a few years, it was possessed of above twenty convents in that kingdom. The brethren of this order were not confined to cloisters, as those called monks were, but travelled through the country preaching; whence they are often called *fratres praedicatores*. According to the rules of the order, they were to enjoy no earthly possessions, except the spots upon which their convents

Convent of Dominicans.

stood ; but were to subsist by pure alms, from whence they had the name of *Mendicants*. The garb which distinguished them, was a black cloth thrown over their shoulders ; this gave them the name of *Black Friars*.

THE Dominican convent at STIRLING was founded by Alexander II. in 1233, and stood upon the east side of the lane leading from the Bakers Wynd, to the north side of the town, which is still called the Friar Wynd, from its vicinity to it. The place of its situation was without the walls of the town.

The church belonging to the convent was, for above two hundred and fifty years, the chief place of worship for the inhabitants of the town of STIRLING, and adjoining to it was the common burial place ; only those of rank were buried within the church. Duncan, Earl of Lennox, with his son in law, Murdoch, Duke of Albany, and his two grandsons, Walter and Alexander Stewarts, who were all executed upon the Gowling hills in 1425, were buried in the church of the Dominicans, upon the south side of the great altar. The person who pretended to be Richard II. King of ENGLAND, and had been enter-

tained under that character several years at the court of James I. dying in the castle in 1420, was interred in the same church, at the horn of the great altar. The spot where both the convent and burial place had their situation, hath long been employed as a garden, in which great quantities of human bones have often been found.

AFTER the battle of FALKIRK in 1298, Edward I. advanced to STIRLING, where he staid two weeks, taking up his lodgings in the convent of Dominicans; the Scots, in their retreat northward, having burned the greatest part of the town.

JOHN ROUGH, who is mentioned in history as an eminent promoter of the reformation, and who suffered martyrdom in ENGLAND, in the reign of Queen Mary, was once a member of this convent. He entered into it at the age of seventeen, and, after having continued sixteen years, was called to be chaplain to the Earl of Arran, the governor, who afterwards renouncing the reformed religion, dismissed him and all who professed to favor the new opinions.

THE convent was demolished by those who followed the lords of the congregation,

when they came to STIRLING in 1559, in order to prevent the design of the Queen-regent, who intended to have planted that town with a garrison of French soldiers.

A much greater number of the friars than of the monks embraced the reformation. This was probably owing to their opportunities of more frequent converse with the world, which inspired them with more liberal sentiments, as well as to their having no possessions, which rendered them less attached to the old system.

THE CONVENT OF FRANCISCANS,

OR GRAY FRIARS, AT STIRLING.

THE Franciscans received their name from Francis, a merchant of ASSISE in ITALY, who founded the order in the beginning of the thirteenth century, an age very fertile of religious orders. They were likewise mendicants, professing to possess nothing, but going about bare-footed, with wallets upon their backs, craving subsistence. Their habit was a coarse gray gown, with a rope about their loins, from whence they had the name of *Gray Friars*.

THE Franciscan convent at STIRLING was situated in the higher parts of the town, near the present church, which belonged to it, though it is difficult at present to point out the particular place of its situation. It was founded by James IV. in 1494. At the same time, the church was erected for the use of the convent; though, in process of time, it became the most frequented place of worship for the inhabitants of the town. That King, who was a noted libertine, pretended at times to great devotion, according to the superstitious system of

those ages, and often underwent a voluntary penance in this convent, assisting at mass in the choir, and dining in the refectory amongst the brethren. During Lent too, retiring from all wordly business, he made it the usual place of his residence; and, upon Good Friday, was accustomed to dine on bread and water on his bare knees.

THIS convent was demolished in 1559, at the same time with that of the Dominicans; but the church was left untouched; for, though the reformers generally destroyed the monasteries and convents of the regular clergy, which they considered as nurseries of idolatry and superstition, they spared parish churches, as necessary to the maintainance of religion.

At the demolition of these convents, more wealth was found in them than was consistent with their avowed professions of poverty. That of the Gray Friars at PERTH, which was also pulled down in 1559, was well provided, not only with the necessaries, but also with the delicacies of life. The furniture of the beds and tables were equal in finery to that of any of the nobility; and, though there were but eight persons in the convent, and it was about the

Convent of Franciscans.

middle of May, eight puncheons of salt beef, and great store of other victuals, were found in it.

MISCELLANEOUS HISTORY,
ANCIENT STATE, &c. OF THE TOWN,
WITH THE VARIOUS TRANSACTIONS,
CIVIL AND MILITARY, THAT HAVE TAKEN
PLACE IN IT.

STIRLING was formerly protected by a wall; but the present wall and rampart around it, (the remains of which only stand visible here and there,) was built in the minority of James VI. by one of his favorites, the Earl of Arran, to add to his own security. It ran from the south-east corner of the rock of the castle, along the south side of the hill, until it joined the east port, where there was an arched way of ponderous masonry; on which a huge iron gate was hung, and a portcullis of iron could, at pleasure, be let down from the upper part of the arch. The arch was taken down about forty years ago, but the two pillars remained, until they also followed the fate of all the mechanical labors of our ancestors. They were, at least twenty feet thick, built of ponderous basal-

tic stone, and had large apartments within them, to accommodate the guard, who watched, or defended, the gate.

THE river protected the town on the north side, and the bridge was also secured by an arched way, and iron gate. Both this gate, and that of the east port, had keys of solid silver: these, fortunately, are preserved, and lie in the custody of the town-clerk. The magistrates, on the approach of any personage of high rank, usually met him with these keys; the last to whom this ceremony was performed, was the Duke of CUMBERLAND, anno 1746, when he marched through this town in pursuit of the rebels.

THE high situation of STIRLING, in the midst of a spacious and fertile plain, contributes not only to the pleasure of the inhabitants, as it furnishes them with one of the most extensive and variegated prospects that is to be met with in SCOTLAND, but also to their health, as it affords them the advantage of breathing a pure and salutary air. King William, surnamed the Lion, desired, in his last sickness, to be carried to STIRLING, in expectation of reaping some benefit to his health from the salubrity of its air.

THE castle, no doubt, gave the first rise the town, as it encouraged the neighboring people to settle under the protection of it; and, when that fortress became one of the royal residences, many of the nobility and officers of state built houses in the town for the conveniency of attending the court; this again naturally drew merchants and tradesmen to the place for gain. By these means it gradually increased, till it covered the greatest part of the hill, and became a place of general resort.

It was erected into a royal burgh by King David I. about the year 1150, and is ranked the fifth burgh in SCOTLAND, in point of antiquity. Its arms are, upon one part, a bridge, with a cross upon the summit of it, and the following motto around it; *Armis hic stant Bruti, Scoti stant hic cruce tuti*, (the Scots stand protected, on this side, by the arms of Brutus, and on that, by the cross :) in another part, a gothic castle, with two branches of a tree, to represent the castle and forest of STIRLING, as appears by the following line around it: *Hoc continet in se castrum et nemus Strivelense*, (this contains within itself, the castle and forest of STIRLING.) The figure of a wolf, an inhabitant of the

ancient Scottish forests, makes also a part of the arms.

STIRLING was one of the towns which constituted the *curia quatuor burgorum*, or court of four burghs. That court, which was the origin of the present convention of burghs, was a sort of commercial parliament, invested with full powers to determine in every question relating to the interest of all the burghs. At a meeting of the *curia quatuor burgorum* in this town, October 12th 1405, sundry laws were enacted concerning the internal order of the burghs, and the qualification of burgesses. In those ages, the appeal from the sentences of burgh-courts was to the chamberlain at HADDINGTON, who was empowered to summon an assize, which was to consist of three or four respectable burgesses from each of the towns of EDINBURGH, STIRLING, BERWICK, and ROXBURGH; or, when the two last were in the hands of the English, LINLITHGOW and LANARK. The verdict of that assize was final.

In the reign of James VI. the town was enlarged towards the east. Formerly, the eastern wall passed a little below the present Library Rooms, and the south port stood a hundred yards more to the west-

ward than it does at present. That port was erected about 1591. When it was taken down, in order to render the entry to the town more commodious, a silver piece, of the size of a crown, which is preserved in the council-chamber, was found in the foundation, where it had been placed as a medal. It is of date 1587, and hath upon it, *Margaretta Princess de Madgeburgh*. That Princess was grandmother to Queen Anne, spouse to James VI.

NEAR the south port is a very copious and pure spring, called St. Ninian's well, on account of its having been dedicated to that saint, whose memory, in the ages of superstition, was held in universal esteem. The remains of a chapel are also to be seen, which, having been repaired, is used by the inhabitants as a washing house.

THE two principal entries to the town are the borough-port upon the south, and the bridge upon the north. The erection of a bridge at the Drip, hath rendered the communication between the west country and the town much more easy and commodious than it was before.

OPPOSITE to STIRLING, upon the north

bank of the river, stand some high rocks, called the Abbey Craigs, from their vicinity to the old abbacy of CAMBUSKENNETH. Upon one of these rocks was dug up, about fifty years ago, a stone, with the Scottish thistle upon one side, and, upon the other, sundry elegant Saxon characters, the meaning of which we do not understand. It is not improbable that the stone had been designed as a boundary, in the erection of which, the Scots and Saxons had been jointly concerned.

IN the neighborhood of this town is a chain of steep rocks, four in number, and bearing a resemblance to each other, by gradually rising from the east, and terminating in an almost perpendicular precipice upon the west. Each of these rocks has been the stage of military transactions. The Abbey Craig, which is the northermost, is memorable for the defeat of the English army near it by William Wallace. The next, upon which the castle and town of STIRLING stands, has been the scene of innumerable rencounters. The third, called Gilles-hill, is the western termination of the famous field of BANNOCKBURN. And at the east end of the fourth, which is called Sauchie-hill, lies the field where James III. and his disaffected subjects,

headed by his own son, engaged. These rocks strike the eye of travellers approaching the town from the west, though they are not discernable by those that come from the east.

THIS town must necessarily be supposed to have undergone the same revolutions with the castle. We have no cause to lament, that the memory of many bloody rencounters which happened in its neighborhood, in remote ages, is lost. The accounts that have come down to us are sufficiently full, in describing the carnage of fields of slaughter, and the barbarous attempts which mankind have made to destroy one another. The castle and court, which drew inhabitants to the place for protection and gain, often proved occasions of its being exposed to rapine and hostile invasions. Many contests, state trials, executions, plots, riots, and murders have happened in it, which are too inconsiderable to be mentioned here. We shall only take notice of a few of the principal transactions, of which it hath been the stage.

It hath, at different times, suffered by fire. In March 1244, it was burned to the ground by accidental fire. The old Scottish towns

being generally built with wood, rendered them liable to frequent calamities of that kind. But it was a most singular occurrence, that the same night in which STIRLING was burned, HADDINGTON, ROXBURGH, LANARK, PERTH, FORFAR, MONTROSE, and ABERDEEN, all underwent the same fate. The wind had probably been very high, as ordinarily happens at that season of the year.

THIS town was also burned by Wallace, in his retreat from the battle of FALKIRK in 1298; who, at the same time, laid the country waste, in order to distress the English for want of provisions, if they should pursue him.

STIRLING was the stage of many considerable transactions, during the commotions which subsisted in SCOTLAND at the time of the reformation. Mary of LORRAIN, the regent, frequently held her court and parliaments in the castle, as did also her daughter Queen Mary.

IN 1559, the lords of the congregation, as those who espoused the cause of the reformation were called, being assembled in PERTH, understood that the Queen-regent intended to plant a strong garrison

of French soldiers in STIRLING, in order to stop their passage over the Forth ; but they prevented her design, by taking possession of it for themselves. At that time, the abbey of CAMBUSKENNETH, with the convents of Black and Gray Friars, was demolished by the sallies of an irregular zeal. In the month of August, that same year, the reformers entered into their third bond of mutual defence, in this town.

DURING the minority of James VI. the nation was divided into two powerful parties, one of which adhered to Queen Mary, and the other to her son. Both of them were perpetually employed in forming combinations, or committing hostilities against one another. In September 1571, the Duke of Lennox, at that time regent, and who, with his partizans, adhered to the interest of the young King, held a parliament in the castle of STIRLING, which, by the opposite party, was distinguished, out of contempt, by the name of the BLACK PARLIAMENT. The friends of Mary formed a design to surprise them. In order to put this design in execution, the Earl of Huntly, Lord Claud Hamilton, the laird of Buccleugh, Sir David Spence of Wormiston, with sundry others of rank,

set out from EDINBURGH, late of an evening, at the head of three hundred horse, and eighty foot; and reaching STIRLING by four o'clock next morning, easily found access into the town, having one Bell, a native thereof, for their guide. They immediately surrounded the lodgings of the chief nobility, and, without meeting with any resistance, except from the Earl of Morton, who did not surrender till the house was set on fire about him; they made prisoners of the regent, and ten other noblemen, with whom they instantly set out in triumph, upon their return to EDINBURGH. But the enterprise, which had hitherto succeeded so well, was suddenly defeated by the neglect of discipline amongst their own followers; for the borderers, who accompanied Buccleugh, instead of being ready to march with the prisoners, were scattered throughout the town in quest of plunder. Before they could be collected, intelligence was carried to the Earl of Mar, in the castle, who immediately marched out with a company of musketeers, and, entering the back-way. through his own new lodgings, which were then a-building, fired so smartly upon the invaders, that he drove them, with the utmost precipitation, from the market-place to the lower parts of the town. His soldiers

too, being joined by the townsmen, seized many of the plunderers, and so hotly pursued the main body, that they were obliged to drop their prisoners, who were all found safe, except the regent, whom one Calder, upon seeing the enterprise defeated, had barbarously stabbed in the belly with a broad sword, Sir David Spence, to whom he had surrendered, endeavored to save him, but in vain; and was himself hewn in pieces by the pursuers, whose rage would not suffer them to listen to the earnest entreaties made by the wounded regent to spare him.

IN this expedition, six of the assailants were killed, and twenty-six taken prisoners, of whom Buccleugh, Calder, and Bell, were the most considerable: the other party lost twenty-four, amongst whom, besides the regent, Alexander Stewart of Garlies, and George Ruthven, were the only persons of note. The regent was carried to the castle, where he died of his wounds that same evening, and was interred in the chapel-royal. Calder and Bell were, in two days after, executed in the market-place, or High Street. The regent received the mortal wound where the village or NEWHOUSE now stands, about a quarter of a mile from the borough-port. A small

heap of stones and rubbish were raised upon the spot, which remained till 1758, when it was removed, in order to level the ground for the turnpike-road.

THE Court of Session sat some time at STIRLING, during the regency of the Duke of Lennox, as did also the General Assembly of the Church, in August 1571, and in June 1578.

THE Earls of angus and Mar, the master of Glamis, and others, who had been concerned in the expedition called the Raid of Ruthven, which was the forcible detention of the King at Ruthven-house, took possession of the town and castle of STIRLING in 1584; but were soon obliged to abandon it, and fly to ENGLAND, where they remained under a sentence of forfeiture till next year, when, returning with an additional force, they again made themselves masters of the town, without meeting with any considerable opposition. The King was at that time in the castle; but, as it was in no state of defence, and these lords were preparing to invest it, he sent commissioners to treat with them, to whom they very readily listened, and immediately obtaining access to his majesty, threw themselves at his feet, and begged

pardon, which was readily granted. The sentence of forfeiture was also removed, their estates restored, and themselves so far taken into favor, that sundry of them were soon raised to offices of public trust, and ever after shared much of the royal confidence. This expedition was called the *Raid of Stirling*.

THIS town was also the stage of sundry public transactions, during the commotions that took place in SCOTLAND, in the reign of Charles I. Upon the ferment which arose at EDINBURGH, at the introduction of the new liturgy in 1637; the privy council and court of Session were, by the royal mandate, removed to STIRLING, where they continued for several months. At the same time, proclamation was made, that none should repair to that town, without a warrant from the lords of privy council. When this proclamation, together with that which appointed the use of the liturgy, was read at the market cross of STIRLING, a protest was publicly entered against it by the Earl of Hume, Lord Lindsay, and a great number of barons ministers, and burgesses, bearing, that it should not preclude them from having recourse to their sovereign, to present their grievances; and that none of them should

suffer loss of life or lands, for disobedience to acts or canons, introduced without the authority of parliament, or general assembly. So far, too, was the proclamation from being obeyed, that the town was, that same evening, taken possession of by two thousand armed men, who all set out next day for EDINBURGH, in order to consult about further proceedings in opposition to the measures of the court. The consequences of this are well known.

IN 1645, a pestilence, which had come from ENGLAND, by the way of KELSO and EDINBURGH, broke out in the town of STIRLING, where it raged with great violence, from the middle of July, to the month of October. Upon its arrival at EDINBURGH, the parliament removed to STIRLING; but that dreadful enemy pursuing them thither, they were obliged to adjourn to PERTH. At that time, the town-council held their meetings in the open fields, in an inclosure called the Cow-park, upon the south side of the wall. Great care, however, was taken of those who were infected. Tents were erected for them upon the lands of Sheriffmuir-lands, at the north end of the bridge, and every method was used that could tend to administer comfort or relief to persons in

so dismal a situation. Cleansers were appointed for the different quarters of the town, for whose payment, a small tax was laid upon the inhabitants; and a spot of ground, near St Ninian's well, was allotted for burying those that died. Many of their bones have been since dug up in that place. Six members of the council, whose humanity had rendered them particularly active upon that mournful occasion, died of the infection. Their grave-stones are still to be seen in the church-yard, upon the north side of the church.

IN 1648, after the defeat of the Scottish expedition into ENGLAND in behalf of Charles I. commonly called Duke Hamilton's engagement, a new commotion was raised in SCOTLAND by those who had disapproved of that expedition, and who now seemed to enjoy a malevolent pleasure from the defeat of it. The principal authors of that commotion were, the Marquis of Argyle, the Earls of Cassilis and Eglinton, together with the Earl of Loudon, chancellor, at whose instigation, a body of men, far from being inconsiderable, rose in arms. To oppose them, the committee of estates found themselves under the necessity of assembling an army, the command of which was conferred upon the Earl of

Lanark, who was soon joined by George Monro, an officer of experience, with a small body of troops which he had conducted home from the late disaster in ENGLAND. At that time the place we are surveying became a-new the stage of military marches and rencounters. Argyle, having collected a small body of highlanders, marched eastward, in order to form a junction with Loudon and Eglinton. He halted at the town of STIRLING to refresh his men; and, after having posted above one hundred of them to guard the bridge, and the rest at the borough-port and borough-miln, he went to dine with the Earl of Mar in the castle, entertaining no dread of a sudden attack from the enemy, whom he apprehended to be at a considerable distance; but, before dinner was ended, he received intelligence of the approach of Monro, who, with a party of horse, had made a rapid march, with an intention to surprise him; whereupon the Marquis, who was not renowned for military prowess, judged it expedient to consult his own safety by a precipitate flight, leaving his men to their hazard. Monro had taken a compass by the west side of the town, with a view to intercept the retreat of his antagonist; but he had crossed the bridge a few hours before his arrival. His men,

who were posted there, were thrown into so great consternation by the unexpected appearance of the enemy, and the flight of their own leader, that they could make no effort to defend themselves ; and not having even so much presence of mind as to ask for quarter, they were all cut to pieces by Monro's troopers, except a few, who, attempting to swim the river, were drowned. Those stationed at the borough-port and miln were saved from a like destruction by surrendering themselves prisoners to the Earl of Lanark, who had arrived at the town before the return of Monro from the slaughter at the bridge. During these transactions at STIRLING, the army led by the chancellor and Eglinton, took up their station at FALKIRK, which Lanark had lately left. Monro proposed to march back next day in order to attack them, promising an easy victory ; but the proposal was rejected by Lanark, who, instead of inclining to further hostilities, expressed a regret for the blood which had already been shed. An accommodation was immediately set on foot ; and commissioners from both parties having met at Woodside, upon the borders of Torwood, brought the matter to an amicable issue ; upon which both armies were disbanded.

IN 1715, the Duke of ARGYLE, commander of the royal forces, encamped with his army in the king's park, below the castle, and from thence marched to the battle of Sheriff muir, which was fought four miles northward of STIRLING.

SUNDRY reparations were made upon the walls of the town in 1745; but, upon the approach of the rebels, after their return from ENGLAND, in the beginning of next year, the inhabitants not finding themselves in a condition of defence, saw it proper to allow them admittance into the town, after having sent all the arms found in it to the castle, and obtained some terms for their own safety; which were, that no man's person should be harmed by the highlanders, and that every thing should be paid that they called for. But, it is said, that they had not been two hours in town till they broke these articles of capitulation, by pillaging the houses and shops of those that were most noted for their opposition to the pretender.

STIRLING gave birth to Doctor Robert Pollock, the first Principal of EDINBURGH college; to Doctor Henry, the historian of GREAT BRITAIN; and to Doctor John Moore, author of "Views of society and

manners in ITALY, FRANCE, &c.” and numerous other works of deserved celebrity : and to various other celebrated characters.

SET OR CONSTITUTION OF THE BOROUGH.

THE town-council consists of twenty-one members, fourteen of whom are merchants, and seven tradesmen, viz. a provost, four baillies, a dean of guild, a treasurer, seven merchant counsellors, and seven deacons of trades. Besides the ordinary jurisdiction in civil causes, which is common to the magistrates of all royal boroughs, and to the sheriffs of counties, the magistrates of this town have also an extensive criminal jurisdiction, conferred upon them by their charters, equal to the power of sheriffs, within their territories. Prior to the year 1781, the old council elected the new one, eleven members at least of the old council being changed yearly. Six of the seven trades sent a leet of four, and the bakers a leet of eight to the council, who had power to put a negative upon the one half of each leet. Each incorporation chose one out of the remainder, as their representative in council. The burgh having been disfranchised in 1775, by a sentence of the house of Peers, confirming the decree of the court of

Peculiar Law.

Session, his Majesty was pleased, in 1781, to restore it to its privileges of election, by his poll warrant, in which he made the following alterations on the set. The guildry company of merchants annually elect four members of the new council. The trades choose their seven representatives, without sending leets: only the old council previously declares four of the old deacons incapable of being re-elected for the ensuing year. And there are still, at least, eleven of the old council changed yearly. By the new set, as well as the old, the provost, baillies, treasurer and convener, cannot be continued in their offices more than two years at a time. The dean of guild being now chosen by the company of merchants, is necessarily changed yearly.

PECULIAR LAW.

THERE is a remarkable bye-law of this community, made in 1695, which the members of council must annually take an oath to observe. By it they bind themselves to take no lease of any part of the public property, under their management, nor to purchase any part of it; neither to

receive any gratification out of the public funds, under pretence of a reward for their trouble, in going about the affairs of the borough, or of the hospitals founded in it. By this bye-law, also, a *board of auditors* is elected annually, for inspecting the public accounts, consisting of two members chosen by the merchants at large, and two chosen in like manner by the seven royal incorporations.

POLICE.

THERE is here no regular police. When there are no military in the town, a certain number of the inhabitants attend each night, in a commodious guard-room, from 10 o'clock till 6 in the morning. The inhabitants attend this duty by turns, either personally, or by sending a substitute. The streets are likewise patrolled at stated times.

PLACES OF WORSHIP, &c.

BESIDES the established church, (already mentioned,) there are, here, a respectable

Scotch Episcopal chapel, the pastor, Bishop George Gleig, L. L. D. a gentleman well known in the republic of letters, as a profound critic, and an elegant scholar: a Seceder meeting-house on the old plan, and one reformed, according to a new light which the present century has kindly afforded them; a Cameronian, an Anti-burgher, a Tabernacle, a Berean, and Baptist meeting. Regular clergymen officiate in all, the Berean and Baptist excepted. This town was the original seat of the *secession* from the Church of SCOTLAND, and of the sect called *seceders*. The town-council are patrons for the first charge in the High Church: the town-council, kirk-session, seven delegates from the seven trades, four delegates from the four tolerated communities, and one delegate from the guildry, are patrons for the second charge. The town-council having agreed to open the west church, it is now undergoing considerable repairs for that purpose, and the sum of £.150 per annum, has been allocated to a third minister as an assistant.

HOSPITALS.

THERE are four hospitals here. The first is that endowed by Robert Spittal, *taylor* to King James V. The date of the mortification is not known; but is supposed to have been about 1530. The original sum is not known. It was mortified for the support and relief of poor tradesmen. The funds arise from the rents of lands.

2. JOHN COWAN, merchant in STIRLING, founded an hospital, anno 1639, for the support of twelve decayed guild brethren. An elegant house was built for their reception; but the objects of this charity persisted in refusing to leave their own homes and to occupy it. The funds accumulated: lands were purchased with them: not only decayed guild brethren, but their widows and daughters are admitted to a share in these funds, which, as it appears, are still accumulating.

3. JOHN ALLAN, writer in STIRLING, about the year 1725, mortified the sum of 30,000 merks Scots, for the maintainance and education of the children of decayed

Hospitals.

tradesmen, a charity, of all others, the most judicious and the most useful; the fund consists of the rent of lands in which the money was invested.

Mr Allan besides, by a clause in his will, ordered supply from these funds to be given to any of his poor relations who might be in indigent circumstances.

4. ALEXANDER CUNNINGHAM, merchant in STIRLING, in the year 1809, bequeathed £.4000 Sterling, to the town-council; the interest to be applied for educating and clothing boys, the one half belonging to guild-brethren, and the other half to mechanics. There are, at present, ten boys supported, educated, and clothed, out of these funds.

The state of the hospitals is as follows :

SPITTAL'S,

Income.....	£.561 4s. 10d.
Pensioners,.....	104
Average allowance per week,	1s. 8d. to 2s.

Hospitals.

COWAN'S,

Income.....	£3000
Pensioners.....	113
Average allowance per week, 5s. 3d. to 2s.	

ALLAN'S,

Income.....	£.568 16s. 9d.
Pensioners.....	43, 36 of whom are boys, who are educated and clothed there.

CUNNINGHAM'S,

Income.....	£.200
Pensioners...	10 boys, who receive educa- tion, clothing, &c.

Total income of the hospitals £4330 1s. 7d.

It may be proper, in connexion with the above statement of the hospital funds, to add that of the other charitable funds of the town, as they now stand.

From ordinary collections, and interest of money.....	£208 14s. 6d.
From voluntary contributions for poor householders.....	£230 0 0

From these funds 110 paupers receive

Schools.

from 6d. to 1s. 8d. weekly. Thus it appears, that the annual income of the charitable establishments in the parish of STIRLING, amounts to £4768 16s. 1d. and the number of persons who receive charity from these funds is 370.

THE managers of Cowan's hospital are the town-council, together with the first minister. The managers of Allan's hospital are the town-council, and the second minister.

SCHOOLS.

AT the Grammar school, which has two teachers, a rector and usher, 80 boys, on an average, are educated annually. At the Writing School, the number of scholars is about 200. There are two established English teachers, and a teacher in Allan's hospital, who receives English scholars, and may have under their care, annually, about 300 children. The salary of the rector is £.50 yearly, and a house. The other teachers have from £.40 to £.50 sterling, annual salary.

GUILDRY.

THE royal charter to the guildry is dated 1648. The more ancient charters are lost. Their president is the dean of guild, an officer, anciently, of great consideration. He holds his courts in the guild-hall. The guildry are a numerous body, and may consist of 200 resident members. Any merchant transmits his privilege to his children; and no one can open shop without being entered, soldiers, seamen, and their children, excepted. A person must be possessed of £.200 of stock before he can be admitted, and must pay a fee of £.60 sterling for his admittance.

THE public accounts are annually audited by four members of the guildry, and four of the trades, not members of council. Anciently, the treasurer was in use to keep his accounts in a mode rather original. He hung two boots, one on each side of his chimney; into one all the money he drew was stored, into the other, the receipts of the money he paid away: he carried his two boots and delivered them over to his successor, after making the

one balance the other : and this simple process continued for many years.

TRADES AND COMMUNITIES.

THE royal incorporations of STIRLING are

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 1. Hammermen, | 4. Taylors, |
| 2. Weavers, | 5. Butchers, |
| 3. Shoemakers, | 6. Skinners, |
| 7. Bakers. | |

THERE are also four communities, who, not having royal charters, have tolerations, or sets of corporations, granted to them by the magistrates. These are

- | | |
|-------------|----------|
| Mechanicks, | Carters, |
| Barbers, | Maltmen. |

LIBRARY.

STIRLING can boast of ample provision for the education of youth, and the comfort of old age, in her numerous charitable foundations.

No provision had been made for the mind. There was no object of relaxation from the constant pursuit of business. The idle had no resource from ennui, and the busy had none from constant attendance on business.

EVERY measure, therefore, which tends to the acquisition, or the increase of knowledge, is so truly praise-worthy and of such great public importance, that the warmest thanks are due to those who undertake, as well as to those who encourage the prosecution of it.

INSTITUTIONS of this kind, for the circulation of the various branches of knowledge, have been reserved, here, for the present age.

ACCORDINGLY, a universal desire having been expressed in 1804, for the establishment of a Library, a subscription was set on foot, and soon filled up; when a general meeting was called, and a set of regulations adopted, the last of which is the key-stone, and bond of association, viz. That the society should never be dissolved, or the books sold, without the concurrence of the whole subscribers; which is very unlikely to happen.

Library.

THE management is vested in a committee of five, with a treasurer and librarian, who are elected annually, by the subscribers.

THE funds arose from the original subscription of a guinea, and the annual subscription of 10s. 6d. which have hitherto afforded, at least, £.100 to be laid out, annually, in the purchase of books. Already the value of those in the library is equal to £.1200, and consist of about 2300 volumes.

STRANGERS are admitted to read at the low rate of 1s. per month, on depositing a guinea as a security for the preservation, and return, of the books.

As the taste for reading seems to increase with the increase of the books, there is just reason to conclude, that the library will increase in the same ratio it has hitherto done; so that, in the course of twenty years, it will be a very respectable establishment, and will be the means of diffusing and increasing a taste for polite literature in this neighborhood,—a result which may be looked for with much confidence, now that, through the public and liberal spirit of the magistrates and town-council, a permanent situation has been found for it.

THIS has been obtained in a handsome building, recently erected at the lower part of the town, upon the site of what was formerly the meal-market. It consists of shops on the ground, with two flats above, and has a neat spire in the centre, fronting the street. The spire affords a fine object upon approaching the town in almost every direction: and the whole building is peculiarly striking to strangers entering the town from the south, as forming a noble termination to that street where one of the principal inns is situated.

THE *upper* flat has, by an act of the town-council, been allocated for the Library, where, in a room about 45 feet in length, the books are now arranged in compartments, secured by doors of wire-work, and the other rooms supply a comfortable residence to the Librarian. The *first* flat of the building is, in virtue of a similar grant, occupied as a

PUBLIC READING ROOM.

THIS room is of equal dimensions with the Library, but much more lofty; is finished with much neatness, and conveniently

furnished. It is supported by subscriptions of one guinea annually; and is provided with 4 daily, and 2 weekly *London* newspapers, and four *Scotch* ones, besides a navy and army list: and it may be, with safety, affirmed, that few *provincial* institutions of this kind are more respectable or better conducted: nor ought it to be concealed, that the subscribers feel highly gratified by the occasional visits paid to the room by strangers.

BEFORE leaving the subject of this building, and the public institutions to which it has been appropriated, we cannot help remarking, that if, according to the Roman poet,

Omne tulit punctum qui miscuit utile dulci,

Surely the gentlemen under whose auspices these so desireable objects have been accomplished, not only well deserve to be applauded by their fellow citizens, but may be allowed to indulge in feelings of no common self approbation, since it is certain, that they have thus effected more of the useful and ornamental in their native place, than has been done in the memory of its oldest inhabitant.

POPULATION.

IN the year 1755, by the return made to Dr Webster, the Inhabitants of the parish of STIRLING amounted only to 3951; whereas, by a pretty accurate survey, made in the year 1790, there were 1188 heads of families, and 4483 inhabitants. In 1801, the number was 5256, and they now amount to 6000.

REVENUES.

Fisheries,.....	£1200	} 135	} £.1065
Deduct to Cowan's			
Hospital.....	£.35		
Do. for stipend..	100		
Custom at the bridge,.....	410		
port,.....	340		
Meal market and Stilliard,.....	40		
Flesh Market,.....	£.100	} 16	} 84
Deduct paid to Fleshers,.....			
Shore mail, and anchorage,.....	80		
Fish, shambles, and weigh-house.....	28		
Land,.....	30		

Washing green,.....	£.40
Mark on each boll of malt.....	160

Total income.....£.2277

THE CIRCUIT COURT.

THIS court meets twice a-year, in April, and September. It is attended by the sheriffs of STIRLING and KINROSS, and by the provost and magistrates of the burgh. Before it are tried all criminal cases, which are competent to the court of Justiciary at EDINBURGH, excepting the crime of high treason.

BANKS.

THE banks are, a branch of the bank of SCOTLAND, established in 1776, and the STIRLING banking company; both of which do business to a considerable extent.

INNS.

Two Inns afford respectable accomoda-

tion to the traveller; besides many decent inferior houses of this description.

WATER.

THE inhabitants were furnished with the greatest part of their water from St Ninian's well, till 1774; when, to the great benefit of the place, water was brought in pipes from Gilles-hill and Lessfrie, which now supplies every quarter of the town.

WEEKLY MARKET.

THE weekly market of STIRLING is held on Friday. The revenue of the borough being ample, the magistrates have very laudably employed a part of it in erecting commodious public buildings, and particularly excellent market places. The butcher market is well adapted for the purpose, being situated in the most airy and central part of the town, having stalls or sheds which effectually prevent the meat from receiving any injury from the sun or rain. A new corn market has lately been erected at the foot of Spittal street.

Fairs.

FAIRS.

THERE are here six fairs annually, viz.

1. New fair, upon the first Friday of February.
2. Old May fair, on the last Friday of May.
3. Old mid-summer fair, on the first Friday of August.
4. Old riding fair, on the third Friday of September.
5. Old latter-fair, on the first Friday of November.
6. New winter fair, on the second Friday of December.

(All new stile.)

CLIMATE OF THE COUNTY

IN GENERAL.

THE climate of this county is various. Its western and south-western districts are exposed to frequent winds and heavy rains from the Atlantic ocean. In its north-western part, which encroaches upon the line of the Grampians, some of these mountains, and particularly Benlomond, penetrate so far into the upper regions of the air, that they necessarily experience much severity of climate, and are covered with snow during a considerable part of the year. The high country in the middle of the county, particularly the mountains called *Campsie Fells*, intercepting the clouds both from the east and west, large quantities of rain fall there, and the weather is so changeable as considerably to retard vegetation. The town of STIRLING, and the northern side of these mountains, with the plains which they shelter, experience a climate more dry and favorable. Its chief inconvenience is that which it encounters from the piercing and long continued east wind, which sometimes prevails, from the centre to the eastern extremity of the island,

from the middle of spring to the beginning of summer.

THE high country in the centre between the two seas, being exposed to heavy rains, is no doubt trying to the human constitution; but at the same time such countries appear sufficiently healthful. The constitutional habits of the inhabitants become adapted to them, and long life and health appear to be generally enjoyed in hilly and elevated districts, provided human food be found in tolerable abundance. Perhaps the level and moist tract which this county contains, exposes the human constitution to a severer trial than the winds and the rain of the mountains. At the same time, the vicinity of these last, and the fierce winds, which, descending from them, sweep along the vallies, prevent the existence of dangerous epidemical complaints. It is worthy of notice, that in all parts of the country, persons employed in iron-works, notwithstanding the severe heat to which some of them are at times exposed, enjoy good health, and the employment is considered as salubrious.

Finis.

SKETCH
OF
A TOUR
From Stirling to Callander
AND THE
TROSACHS,
LOCHEARN, DUNEIRA,
COMRIE, CRIEFF, KINROSS,
CROOK OF DEVON, CAULDRON LINN,
RUMBLING BRIDGE, CASTLE CAMPBELL,
DUNFERMLINE, CULROSS,
AND ALLOA.



Stirling :
PRINTED BY M. RANDALL.

SKETCH OF A TOUR,

&c. &c.



HAVING concisely endeavored to make the stranger acquainted with the history of STIRLING, it may be agreeable to offer a few such descriptive sketches as will facilitate and enliven the progress of those, whose object may be to explore and admire the romantic and magnificent scenery embosomed by the Caledonian mountains.

THE traveller, therefore, has the choice of two roads in his departure from STIRLING to CALLANDER, which is the next stage in the north-west direction to the highlands. The one is by the bridge; and, after a course of about five miles, winds to

the left ; leaving, on the right, the road to the ancient city of DUNBLANE.

DUNBLANE is a place of great antiquity. Its distance from STIRLING is about six miles. So early as the twelfth century, in the reign of David II. from being a convent of *Culdees*, it was erected into a bishoprick ; but, the records and chartulary being either lost or neglected, Keith, in his catalogue, is unable to fix the precise time of its foundation, neither can he ascertain who was first consecrated bishop of this See. The cathedral and palace, though in ruins, appear to have been of superior elegance in design and workmanship. The Library, founded in 1675, by the pious and learned prelate Robert Leighton, some time Bishop of DUNBLANE, and afterwards Archbishop of GLASGOW, is a valuable acquisition to that part of the country. Since his time, several donations of books and money have been made, and its funds are so considerable, as to allow a small salary to a Librarian, who acts under the management of trustees, the heirs and representatives of those nominated by the executors of the original founder.

THE other road turns off at the bridge, to the left, and goes on in a direct line

to Craigforth and Drip-bridge. In pursuing our excursion by this road, we soon fall in with the Forth, over which we pass by the bridge of Drip, and enter PERTHSHIRE. On turning round to take a retrospective view, we command, from this point, an interesting prospect of STIRLING castle, and the adjacent grounds; Craigforth on the right, with its wooded cliffs impending over the river, which here sweeps slowly along its base, coming in the fore-ground, together with the bridge, give much interest to the landscape. As we proceed, we pass, on the right, Auchtertyre, pleasantly situated on the right bank of the Teith, which here forms the most considerable branch of the Forth. The late proprietor of this estate (Mr Ramsay) greatly improved it; and, like *Shenstone*, in a truly classical manner, led the muses to his dwelling by the languages in which they were formerly wooed by Greek and Roman bards; there being scarcely an avenue, grot, bower, or resting-place, in which some elegant inscription from one or other of the favorite authors of antiquity, is not to be met with in traversing the pleasure-grounds of Auchtertyre.

ABOUT a mile further on, on the left, we

approach Blair-Drummond, the property of Mr Home Drummond, son of the late illustrious Lord Kames. Nearly opposite to the avenue leading up to the house of Blair-Drummond, our attention is attracted by a piece of machinery at the mill of Tor. This consists of a great wheel, so constructed as to raise water, which is conveyed in an opposite direction to that from whence it proceeds, to the neighboring moss, for the purpose of washing it away into the Forth, and by this means clearing a valuable and extensive tract of arable ground which it covers, to the depth of from three to twelve feet.

THIS water-wheel is the invention of Mr Meikle of ALLOA, an engineer of great ingenuity, to whom this country is indebted for many useful improvements in mechanics. The simple construction of this machine denotes at once its utility. It consists of one large wheel, with two sets of arms, and two of buckets; a cistern, which delivers the water into pipes of eighteen inches diameter, that convey it for three hundred yards, and discharge it into an aqueduct, which reaches the moss at the distance of eight hundred yards; thence it sweeps away the loosened parts into the channels made in different sections

 Blair-Drummond.

of the moss; and thus finds its way into the river, and is no more seen.

THE following is the exact measurement of the wheel.

	<i>Feet.</i>	<i>Inches.</i>
Diameter over all the wheel...	28	—
Width.....	10	—
Float-board.....	—	16
Buckets inside, each.....	—	31

Two sets of arms, ten in number.

Two sets of buckets, eighty in number.

Sixty float-boards.

ON quitting the pleasure-grounds of Blair-Drummond, we keep on to the right, leaving on the left, the road to the fort of Inversnaid, by THORSHILL, a village once celebrated for making whisky, the distillation of which, (before the composition for excise duties took place) was carried on to a considerable extent, to the no small injury of the morals of the inhabitants. As we proceed, we see, on the right, a deep dell, which appears to have been the winding course of a stream, that has either become dry or changed its course. Over the eminence which forms the left bank of this dell, a glimpse of Down castle is caught, and produces an agreeable effect.

T

ON passing the Teith, over an ancient bridge of two arches, built in 1530 by Robert Spittal, just as we ascend the rising ground of its left bank, we command an interesting prospect of the adjacent castle, now a ruin, situated on a gentle eminence, embossed in a wood that hangs over the river, which here, sweeping round the level lawn, below the castle, meets the Ardoch, a rapid stream, and both move slowly on, till they are lost in one common reservoir the Forth, in their progress to the sea. On both sides of the river its banks are wooded, and rise in the most picturesque swells. In the distance, Craighforth, STIRLING castle, and the highest of the Ochil hills, seem admirably placed for the composition of a picture.

THE village of Down, which we pass on our right, is rising into consequence. Formerly, it consisted of a few straggling, ill-built huts; but now a general appearance of neatness and comfort is manifest, particularly in the east part of the village. It derives considerable support from five fairs, held here, in the months of February, May, July, November, and December, when a fine shew of cattle, collected throughout the western isles, and other

parts of our highland districts, is exhibited for sale.

WE now bid adieu to the fertile plains of the *lowlands*. The *highlands* present their awful bulwarks, in solemn grandeur, and sterile gloom. The soil, as we proceed, seems hardly susceptible of vegetation; and were it not that here and there some verdure, and a few miserable huts, are met with as we pass along, one would feel half inclined to turn back, and proceed no farther. But by degrees we get familiarized with nakedness and sterility; and when curiosity prompts, and some hopes of gratification remain, we feel ourselves insensibly led on in the pursuit of our object.

A few solitary mansions, that form a contrast with the wretched hovels on the road side, are to be met with in our way: these are Mr Edmonston's house of Cambuswallace, on the right, Sir John MacGregor's (Murray) on the left, which he has lately rebuilt on his property of Lanrick. Proceeding a few miles farther, we arrive at the solitary residence of Ballachallan, formerly the property of a family of the name of Stuart, now nearly extinct. Mr Buchanan of Auchleshie, having lately

made a purchase of it, it now forms a part of his property; and, from being almost in a state of nature, by unremitting diligence, knowledge in agriculture, and attention to the various operations carried on under his own inspection, he has made many parts of it as valuable as any spot in the extensive strath of Monteith. As we proceed, an instance of this gentleman's taste and patient perseverance is manifest in his improvements round his present residence, Cambusmore. The range of pasture-grounds the plantations, &c. shew how much, by proper management, might be made of land, that on a superficial survey seems hardly worth the cultivating.

WE now approach the first highland village (namely, CALLANDER,) on this side of the Grampians. In passing through it, we are pleased with that appearance of cleanliness and comfort which, from its secluded situation, we are little prepared to expect. The houses, for the most part, are built with stone and lime, and, what we should least expect, are slated. The late clergyman of this parish, Dr James Robertson, was a learned and accomplished man, sincerely beloved by his parishioners, among whom he officiated for upwards of forty years, with honor and respect.

THIS part of the country having been of late much resorted to by strangers, it may be proper to remark, that an immediate view of the landscape, in which the village of CALLANDER is situated, may be seen from the bridge, at the distance only of about 300 yards from the inn.

For the encouragement of the public, an excellent inn has been built at CALLANDER, by Francis M'Nab, Esq. of M'Nab, upon a feu from the family of PERTH. It consists of nine public rooms, the largest being 25 feet, by 21, and the height 12 feet, elegantly finished and furnished, and the other parlours in proportion.

THE bed-rooms are sixteen in number, most of which have dressing closets, and some are double bedded. The apartments for servants are nine; of which some have two beds: all these are independent of the accommodation necessary for the family.

THE stable contains stalls for thirty horses, besides another with stalls sufficient to hold thirty horses more. The garden is large, and filled with varieties of small fruit and kitchen stuffs; besides that, the whole walls are set round with fruit trees.

AT the very end of the bridge is the conical mount of saint Kessac, whose anniversary holds upon the 21st of March. This beautiful green mount, of a conical figure, is supposed to be artificial, having been constructed for butts, when the Scots, according to an ancient law, exercised themselves on the afternoon of the Sabbaths, in shooting with bows and arrows. Hence the practise of planting Yews near church-yards ; as we see in many places of SCOTLAND.

ON the west, you have peeps of two different rivers, meandering through a meadow of great extent and fertility, where Mr Scot says

——“ Twice that day from shore to shore,
The gallant stag swam stoutly o'er ;
And when the bridge of Turk was won,
The headmost horseman rode alone.”

THE banks are fringed with wood, and encompassed with sloping farms, which rise gradually from the green plain, to the foot of the hills. Benledi, raising his towering head to the clouds, bounds the prospect in that direction.

THE craig of CALLANDER, on the north, forms a constrast, by its rude grandeur, to

the neatness of the village below. And, on the east, the river, after making a sweep or two, is apparently lost among trees, which surround the Roman camp, and the Manse, situated on its opposite banks.

EVERY person, who wishes to explore the beauties of this part of the country, visits that delightful bank and villa, called the Roman camp, at the eastern extremity of the village, on the river's edge; which, although it wears not the leading features of a Roman camp, is nevertheless admired as one of the most beautiful spots in the environs of CALLANDER. Its natural beauty has been set off to great advantage, by the taste displayed in some additional embellishments, made by the late Captain Fairfoul of Struie, to ornament his hospitable mansion. A clean, neat terrace has been carried along the ridge of the wooded bank, which follows all the bends and windings, and returns by the brink of the river; where the murmuring stream seen through the trees, occasional views of the bridge, and of some neighboring houses, form a pleasant variety. From the very west end of this bank, next the present coach-house of the Camp-house, there is a landscape, in which the house, the river, the village, the bridge, the rock, the distant

hills, and a variety of other objects, are very picturesque; of which there is a drawing, that does honor to the pencil of Mrs Erskine, the lady of the Hon. Henry Erskine of EDINBURGH.

SOME fragments of the castle of CALLANDER still remain at the manse, where there are trees planted more than two centuries ago; and where the venerable hawthorn-tree, the emblem of an ancient seat of distinction, is in full vigour, having its boughs curiously entwined with each other, so as to form a close arbour, on the top of a perpendicular trunk. This castle had been a seat of Livingstone, Earl of LINLITHGOW and CALLANDER, built or repaired in 1596; as the inscription, which is preserved at the manse, denotes.

ABOUT a mile and a half north-east from CALLANDER, in the glen betwixt Achinlaich and Brackland, the bridge over Kelty is singularly romantic. This bridge, till lately, consisted of two sticks covered with branches of trees, which were overlaid with turf. It stretches over a chasm, and rests on two projecting cliffs, whose towering tops are about a hundred feet above the bottom of the dark, narrow, deep, and rugged glen, in which the water

Bridge of Brackland.

flows. From every crevice in these rocks, sprout shrubs of copse-wood, which, in different directions, overhang the rushing stream below. It has been too much modernized of late.

THE winding path to the bridge of Brackland, is very confined, and very steep, along the sides of some large shelving blocks, that had fallen down from the frowning rock, which projects over the traveller's head. Having gained the end of the bridge, the spectator views the cataract on his left, dashing from side to side, struggling and rushing from rock to rock, till it comes to the great fall, into the deep pool below the bridge; where the whole river is precipitated in a white sheet, rolling, gushing, tossing, thundering down.

THE people of the adjacent farms, from the mere force of habit, pass the bridge with little emotion, even while the spray, in a high wind, wets their clothes: and yet the very act of looking down when there is a flood in the water, must appal a stranger, unless his nerves be uncommonly strong, by reason of the altitude of his situation, the deepness and narrowness of the ravine on either hand, the windings of the glen, the gloomy precipices around him, the

blackness of the pools below, and the roaring of the different and successive falls.

THE honorable Mrs Murray, now Mrs Oust of GREENWICH, concludes her description of this bridge, page 155 of her tour, in these words : “ The chasm between
“ the two rocks over which the bridge is
“ laid, is not wider than four or five yards.
“ Before I ventured upon the bridge, I
“ stood trembling to gaze and admire ; for
“ I could not help shuddering, though I
“ was highly gratified with the whole
“ scene. The bridge appeared so slight,
“ and the depth below so terrific, that I
“ was in some doubt whether I should
“ venture to cross it. My little guide,
“ however, stood upon it, whistling with
“ the utmost unconcern. I followed him ;
“ but skipt over as fast as I could, without
“ looking upon either side : it being a
“ narrow, tottering, green path, from rock
“ to rock ; not a bit of fence on either
“ side, about a yard wide, and vibrating
“ when trode upon. I got upon a huge
“ projecting tower in front of the chasm,
“ to see the bridge and cascades in every
“ point of view. In getting to that point
“ I was obliged to step over several rents
“ in the rocks, of at least a foot wide, the
“ depth of them not to be seen. But the

“ grand beauties seen from that station,
“ made full amends for my temerity in
“ getting to it. Yet the bridge, on my
“ return, was no less tremendous than
“ when I first crossed it.

NEAR this bridge, and down a little on the right side of the river, is an oval rampart, on the summit of a rising ground, which is now planted and surrounded only by a single ditch and mound of earth. It appears to have been a place of no great strength; were it not that the wild glen behind, which is about a mile long, the projecting rocks and darkening trees, afforded at all times a near and safe retreat. By commanding a view of the whole country, it might have been used as a watch-tower; for which purpose it was well adapted.

THE scenery at the east end of Loch Catherine, called the Trosachs, by reason of its being so rough, so uneven, so much wooded, and so wild, where rocks are piled upon rocks, and hills upon hills, with bays of the lake intervening, is more frequented than any other place near CALLANDER. Here nature has put on her rudest and most grand attire: and the sublimity, the variety and richness of the scenery, exceed all description.

To visit the Trosachs is the work of a day from CALLANDER, being ten statute miles distant; and therefore, it is necessary to carry a refreshment thither, both for men and horses. The road is much improved, so that carriages can travel with safety.

THE best road is by Kilmahog, the cell of St Hog or Hug. Leaving Kilmahog, you pass below the Dun of Bochastle, where the remains of three tiers of ditches and mounds, together with a reservoir for holding water on the summit, are tolerably entire: which shews, that it probably was a watch-tower, for alarming the country in troublous times; receiving its signals from Dummaith, (the hill of good prospect) near STIRLING, which may have had communication with some hill at QUEEN'S-FERRY, probably Dundas, (the south hill,) and that with the Bass or the Law of NORTH BERWICK.

THESE signal posts are met with along the east and west of SCOTLAND, and within its vallies. The signals were made by fire placed in different positions, and of certain numbers, to denote different things; the same as our modern telegraphs by balls.

Benledi.

ALONG the north side of Loch Venachoir, (the lake of the fair valley), you have Benledi to the right, on whose summit, there was held an anniversary assembly of the inhabitants from many miles around, during three days and nights, at the summer solstice, for the purposes of devotion, in the time of the Druids, who always worshipped in the open air, having the same exalted ideas of deity with Solomon: from which circumstance, this mountain got its name, (Benledi, signifying in gaelic, the hill of God).

THE summit of this mountain has the appearance of being dressed smooth and green, but there are no inscriptions, for the Druids never made any. From this elevated situation, is enjoyed a grand, extensive, and a diversified prospect towards all points of the compass, from the borders of ENGLAND, to INVERNESS-SHIRE, and from the western isles of SCOTLAND to the Bass; but the view along the tracts of the Forth and Clyde is the most gratifying, in which the eye beholds and the heart is solaced with smiling fields, clothed with the industrious fruits and rewards of cultivation; innumerable towns and villages, the abodes of active enterprising men; and the manufactures of many thousand hands spread

out to the sun to be prepared for sale : from the top of Benledi on the south side, Lanrick is also seen near at hand, which is a beautiful farm at the west end of Loch Venachoir, where there is a greater breadth of flat land, than in any other place on the side of that lake ; and therefore very judiciously chosen for the rallying place of Roderick Dhu's clan, when summoned by the fiery cross to meet their chief on the eve of going to battle. Each of the high-land clans had a particular place of rendezvous, previous to their expeditions, which was known and fixed. Roderick's clan were wont to assemble in arms at ARDCHOIL in BREADALBINE ; but it suited better the present purpose to make the gathering near Loch Catherine, and therefore he very judiciously names the place, which otherways had been unnecessary.

“ When Roderick with impatient look,
From Brian's hand the symbol took,
Speed, Malice, speed, he said, and gave
The croslet to his henchman brave.
The muster place be Lanrick mead,
Instant the time ; speed, Malice, speed
Herald of battle, fate or fear,
Stretch onward in thy fleet career.”

On the western boundary of Cuilintogle, and almost opposite to a small island

in Loch Venachoir, there was discovered, and still remains, a rude image, graven in stone, resembling the head, neck and shoulders of a human being, which generally rests on the wall of an inclosure. The stone is different from any other species found in this country: rings a little when struck upon the chin with another stone or metal; and seems to have been imported when idolatry prevailed, either before or since the time of the Druids, for the Druids were not idolaters. Another stone, somewhat similar, has been found at Tarndoun, about a mile nearer CALLANDER, which is set up on the corner of a garden. The Druids flourished in BRITAIN, and in many other countries of the north-west of EUROPE, about the beginning of the christian era: how long before is uncertain. They were expelled from CALEDONIA, about the second century, by Fin-gal, whose elevation to the royalty they vigorously opposed.

ON the banks of Loch Venachoir, there is a succession of woods and corn fields, which diversifies the prospect, and dignifies the scenery; particularly at the west end of the arable ground of Blairgarie, where the small island of Broin (lamentation) comes in view, with the whole

length of Loch Venachoir, the wooded bank of Coil-av-roin, and the insulated hill of Lanrick and Coish. Benvenue, and the adjacent mountains, bound the prospect to the west. A fine drawing from this point, was lately made by a lady from GLASGOW.

DUNCRAGGAN is the next farm, nearly at the distance of a mile on your left hand, where the first view of Loch Achray is enjoyed with all the luxuriance of rich and soft scenery, which woods, water, and fertile spots can afford, by bursting suddenly upon the eye.

——“ Upon seeing the fiery cross,
All stand aghast—unheeding all,
The henchman bursts into the hall;

* * * * *

Held forth the cross besmear'd with blood,
The muster place is Lanrick mead,
Speed forth the signal, Clansmen, speed.”

THE scenery at the bridge of Turk is soft and beautiful, along the river-side; and on the surrounding hills, lofty and sublime. On the right, you have a distant view of the forest of Glenfinlas, once covered with the deer of the Kings of SCOTLAND. The King's seat, where probably he dined, and the field for tilts, tournaments, and horsemanship, are shewn.

IN one of the defiles leading to Glenfinlas, and over a tumultuous cataract, hangs a frowning steep rock: in one of the shelves of which, a lawless man took shelter. A female friend handed his victuals over the brow of the precipice, in a rope, down to his asylum, and he drew up water for himself to drink, by letting a bottle tied to the end of a string into the pool, at the bottom of the abyss below; so that it was a long time before they could get him dislodged. The rock is called the Hero's Shield.

BEYOND the bridge of Turk, the banks of Loch Achray, (or Achravy, the field of devotion,) which rise almost perpendicular over the lake, are beautifully romantic; being closely wooded from the water's edge to the summit.

" Thus up the margin of the lake,
Between the precipice and brake,
O'er stock and rock their race they take."

* 1st. AT the nearest point or headland

* Some of the different views in the approach to the Trosachs, are marked with figures.

you come to, on the side of Loch Achray, exactly when a small island comes in view, you have the first, but distant view of the Trosachs, scattered in wild confusion along the west end of that lake.

“ The hunter marked that mountain high,
The lone lake’s western boundary,
And deemed the stag must turn to bay,
Where the huge rampart barr’d the way.”

2d. ABOUT a quarter of a mile farther on, and at the second headland, nearly opposite to the small island, you have a nearer and more complete view, extending from the foot of Benvenue, on the south, to Binean on the north. The foreground is formed by the small lake fringed round with woods, meadows, corn fields, and houses, with the island, a scene of softness and beauty; and at a distance betwixt these two mountains, the rocks, woods, vallies and hills, exhibit the most singular and strikingly wild appearance here.

“ The wily quarry shunned the shock,
And turned him from the opposing rock;
Then, dashing down a darksome glen,
Soon lost the hounds and hunter’s ken;
In the deep Trosachs wildest nook,
His solitary refuge took.
Close on the hounds the hunter came,
To cheer them on the vanish’d game;

Ard-cean-crochan.

But, stumbling on the rugged hill,
The gallant horse exhausted fell.
The impatient rider strove in vain,
To rouse him with the spur and rein ;
For the good steed, his labours o'er,
Stretched his stiff limbs to rise no more."

At the next farm, inquire for a guide, if you require one. James Stuart, in the nearest house of Ard-cean-chrocan, (the name of this farm) has engaged to attend strangers, to provide them with a boat, to explore both sides of Loch Catherine, to point out the most remarkable places and tell their names, to recount the traditions current in the country of the circumstances that happened, and to gratify the inquisitive with every necessary information. Such as have neglected to carry a refreshment with them, or persons desirous to remain for some days, to enjoy the diversions of fishing on the lake, or to penetrate into the innermost and wildest recesses of the Trosachs, (which cannot be done in one day) may find James Stuart useful to them in these respects.

3d. From this farm, and at the west end of Loch Achray, every thing is grand, wild, and picturesque. Every step you advance, new scenery is coming in view ; and the different distances of the wooded

hills on the right, gives them an apparent motion of different degrees of velocity, when yourself is in motion. As you proceed, all seems to be alive and moving. The weeping birches, with their pendulous branches, and waving ringlets, on the sides of winding vallies, and on the tops of hills, retiring from the eye, or coming in view, have a charming effect. The venerable oak that baffles every blast : rocks of every shape and size peeping through the trees : shrubs and trees in all the wild luxuriance of nature, sprouting from the clefts of the craggy cliffs, growing sideways, downwards, obliquely, and in every direction.

“ With boughs that quaked at every breath,
 Gray birch and aspen wept beneath ;
 Aloft, the ash and warrior oak
 Cast anchor in the rifted rock.
 So wondrous wild, the whole might seem
 The scenery of a fairy dream.

THE towering Binean rears his lofty head above all the hills on the right, looking down upon them as his children, if not in origin, at least in size.

“ High on the top-cliffs of yon conic steep
 Scotland's dread Genius stood, and gazed afar
 On Rome's proud legions. Hark ! the sounding
 shield
 Twangs on his arm, while echo pours along,

And rouses Albion's chieftians.—Quick through
wood,
O'er wild, from winding valley, mountain; plain,
Come pouring forth, fierce and indignant, those
To conquer, to repel the foe, resolv'd
Gloriously to fall, fighting for freedom,
Freedom's injured cause,—Behold them now,
Marshall'd in lengthen'd line, a hardy race
Of dauntless warriors, savage, fierce, relentless;
Moving along to meet th' invading crew.—
Sublime in ire, the Guardian Genius shakes
His pond'rous javelin, stamps his steel-shod heel—
The conscious mountain reels; shook to the centre,
And now explosive, rocks head-long hurl down,
Huge in chaotic wildness, rude emass'd;
As bounding in acceleration dreadful!
Shattering each oak, tearing the wooded steep,
And crushing in their course each living form.
How vast the ruin!—
The Spirit of the Lake in depth profound,
Starts 'mid the dire convulsion,—shrieks aloud,
And stares in wild confusion. Now askance
He darts a fearful look, where undismay'd
The Guardian Genius stands, while round him flash
Heaven's thunder bolts; and awful thunder peals—
'Tis past.——Nature now pauses.—
Calm is the bosom of the deep, and still
The darken'd air—The Spirit of the Lake
Solemn and low utters his vast amazement,
To whom the Guardian Genius:
“Ascend with me; yon coming blast
See, down the lake it scuds along,
Lashing the wild waves—bind it fast;
And on its speed, the clouds among,
Swift dart we to yon darken'd strand,
Where Roman legions dare profane
The hallow'd temples of our land.
Now, haste, away,——in vain, in vain

They tread exulting o'er our fields.—

Sons of the mountains! meet the foe
In conflict fierce.—He yields, he yields!

Scatter'd in wild dismay, now lo
Seeks shelter in his ships."——

To whom the Spirit of the Lake:

———" 'Tis done, 'tis done—

The battle's fought,—the battle's won:
Our warriors crown'd with victory return,
And find repose amid our mountains wild,
Where sweet domestic joys most mild
Await the truly brave, whose bosoms burn
With love of country, love of human kind!"——

At the entrance of the ravine which leads to Loch Catherine, the sides are like immense walls, mounting up to the clouds: the shivering rocks hang outward, ready to fall down: great blocks are strewed in the bottom of the defile, on both sides of the road: wood grows wherever there is any soil: the clouds are often seen shooting swiftly behind the trees, on the tops of the hills which bound the visible horizon: the echo is repeated to the stroke of the workman's ax, to the human voice, or to the rattling of the wheels of a carriage. This chasm, lofty, steep, craggy, and wild, *vastoque immanis hiatus* which is about three furlongs in length, leads the traveller to the end of Loch Catherine.

HAVING arrived at the lake, which is

Benvenue.

only one of the bays that run boldly among the rocks and hills, a person of any taste for the grandest and rudest works of nature, must be astonished and delighted.

“ High on the south huge Benvenue,
Down to the lake in masses threw
Craigs, knolls and mounds confusedly hurled,
The fragments of an earlier world :
While on the north, through middle air,
Binean heaved high his forehead bare.”

If the preceding night has had a shower of rain, a hundred white streams rush down the side of Benvenue, with incredible velocity and noise, and spread their knotted froth, dancing on the surface of the lake below. The eagle, whose nest is on the face of Benvenue, may happen to be floating in the air, poised aloft on equal wings at an immense distance, or sitting on his well-known rock, in sight of his young. The heron may be seen stalking among the reeds in search of his prey ; and the sportive ducks gambol on the face of the water, or dive below. The wild goats are often seen climbing where they have scarcely any room for the soles of their feet : and the wild fowls perched on trees, or on the pinnacle of a rock, beyond the reach of being annoyed, looking down with composed defiance at man.

BEWARE of the road at the very entrance of the lake, where it has been raised out of water several feet deep, without any parapet between the black margin of the lake on the left, and a shelving rock on the right hand. A little forward, you see two huts of wicker work, built by order of lady PERTH, for shelter and convenience to strangers. Betwixt the two huts is a perpendicular rock, more than two hundred feet high, hanging over the lake. Along the face of this rock, a road has been scooped out of the solid granite, by blasting. The distance to the higher hut is less than a hundred yards. Although these huts be more in the style of the surrounding scenery, yet as they require constant repairs, a small house of stone would be more durable, and less expensive in the end.

IMMEDIATELY behind the lower hut, is the ascent, called by the country people, the Ladders; over which was the only access here, before the present path was opened along the face of the rock. The manner of mounting these ladders, was by the help of ropes made of the twigs of birch, osier, or other withs, fixed to the roots of the trees that grew from the crevices of the rock. With the rope in one

hand, holding his burden in the other, and marking the alternate nitches in the face of the rock with his feet, a person ascended the first flight of steps to the end of the first rope, and the root of the tree by which it hung. Leaning on that tree, he instantly laid hold of the second rope, and mounted the second flight in the same manner; and so on, from one flight to another, till he gained the summit of the ascent; and then proceeded on his journey.

4th. FROM the second hut, the view is exceedingly romantic. Standing perpendicularly some hundred feet above the lake, and in full view of the wooded face of Benvenue, all furrowed with tracts of rivulets, its sides depastured with flocks of sheep bleating to their lambs, and its base with a herd of cattle lowing to their calves, or standing within the beach, beating away the flies with their tails. Near the water's edge is a cottage, one might suppose the cell of a hermit, opposite to which, the geese of the adjacent farm swim statefully on the bosom of the lake, when removed from the land under crop. Bold promontaries and islands are on either hand, clad with heath and trees, or studded with

naked fragments of rocks, which surround a large bason of water.

“ And now to issue from the glen,
No pathway meets the wanderer's ken,
Unless he climb, with footing nice,
A far projecting precipice.
The brooms tough roots his ladder made,
The hazel saplings lent their aid ;
Where mountains, that like giants stand,
To sentinel enchanted land.——
From the steep promontary gazed
The stranger, raptured and amazed.

BEYOND this hut, and at the extremity of the second bay, is the second tire of ladders, which was mounted with equal peril, and required equal dexterity with the first, before the rock below was cut, and the present road opened. A little way forward, Loch Catherine disappears entirely ; being hid by a peninsula or headland, called the prison, where the farmers confined their lambs when they were to be weaned from their dams. The first bay beyond the prison, which abounds in reeds, is often the scene of the playful frolics of the wild ducks, and of the depredations of the heron on the trouts.

5th. AT the termination of this bay, near a black rock in the lake, and a rivu-

let which flows into it, there is a rich view between the extreme point of the prison, and the next island; through which you see the sloping hills of Glaschoil, wooded down to the water edge, and a distant prospect of Benimm, one of the mountains of Arrochar.

BUT this prospect is more completely enjoyed by mounting about twenty yards upwards, to a large stone or rock, where you see distinctly all the islands at one view, the various wooded promontaries on both sides, and the whole expanse of the lake. Mr Oliphant, of Gask, first discovered the view from this rock, which has since been much admired, and resorted to.

PASSING the isthmus of a small peninsula, you come in view of the Rough Island; which is so much wooded, that it appears to be almost a tuft of trees growing out of the water, hanging down, and stretching out their lateral branches, so as to touch the surface of the deep.

“ From underneath an aged oak,
That slanted from the islet rock,
A damsel, guider of its way,
A little skiff shot to the bay.
The boat had touched the silver strand,
Just as the hunter left his stand,

And stood concealed amid the brake,
To view this Lady of the Lake."

THIS island and the various ravines of the Trosachs, afforded such concealment to a distiller of smuggled spirits, that he eluded the most diligent search of the officers of excise for several years, because none of his neighbours could be bribed to discover his retreat.

IN this roughly wooded island, the country people secreted their wives and children, and their most valuable effects, from the rapacity of Cromwell's soldiers, during their inroad into this country, in the time of the republic. These invaders not venturing to ascend by the ladders, along the side of the lake, took a more circuitous road through the heart of the Trosachs, the most frequent path at that time, which penetrates the wilderness about half way between Binean and the lake, by a tract called Fea-chailleach, or the Old Wife's Bog.

IN one of the defiles of this by-road, the men of the country at that time hung upon the rear of the invading enemy, and shot one of Cromwell's men; whose grave marks the scene of action, and gives name

to the pass ; (Beallach an duine.) In revenge of this insult, the soldiers resolved to plunder the island, to violate the women, and put the children to death. With this brutal intention, one of the party, more expert than the rest, swam towards the island, to fetch the boat to his comrades, which had carried the women to their asylum, and lay moored in one of the creeks. His companions stood on the shore of the main land, in full view of all that was to pass, waiting anxiously for his return with the boat. But, just as the swimmer had got to the nearest point of the island, and was laying hold of a black rock to get on shore, a heroine stood on the very point where he meant to land, and hastily snatching a dagger from below her apron, she severed his head from the body. His party seeing this disaster, and relinquishing all future hopes of revenge or conquest, made the best of their way out of their perilous situation. This Amazon's great grandson lives in the neighborhood, who, beside others, attests the anecdote.

6th. WHOEVER wishes to see the whole Trosachs goes beyond the wooded island, along the embankment, where the road is defended by large stones against the vio-

lence of the waves ; and proceeds to the hill which overtops the most westerly rock, that was blown for the purpose of making a road along its face. This rock, which may be termed the western boundary of the Trosachs, is equally steep, and much higher than the rock at the huts. From this hill, which is called the Druim-beg, the most magnificent, and the most admired view of the whole is enjoyed. The Hon. Mrs Drummond Burrel of PERTH has erected a hut on this eminence, from which, you have the whole extent of the lake on your right hand, with woods, and villages, and corn fields, along its banks ; together with the serrated mountains of Arrochar beyond Loch Lomond : and on the left, the back view of the Trosachs, where the islands scattered in wild confusion through the lake : the frowning rocks and towering mountains on either side : form such rich scenery as it is impossible to describe. About five o'clock in a clear evening, the mixture of shades and light in the face of Benvenue from this point, is inimitably fine.

ON the opposite side of the lake, and almost below the farm of Glaschoil, the isle of Witts appears with its two tufts of trees in opposite ends, of which, many tra-

Loch Catherine.

ditions are handed down, and current in the country.

If a boat happens to be at the end of Loch Catherine, most travellers prefer exploring all from figure 4th, by sailing from thence directly to the Goblins den, in gaelic, Coir nan uriskan, on the south side, which is directly opposite to the Rough Island.

“ Suspended cliffs with hideous sway,
Seemed nodding o’er the cavern gray;
Grim superstitions whisper dread,
Debarred the spot to vulgar tread;
For there, she said, did fays resort,
And satyrs held their sylvan court.”

COIR NAN URISKAN is very much choaked up by immense flags which have fallen from the adjacent rocks, and being piled upon one another, form caverns, where foxes, wild-cats, martins, and pole-cats, &c. take refuge in safety.

FROM the first eminence on the left as you ascend, is a very extensive and interesting view to the north. But this prospect would be much enhanced, if the Hon. Mr Drummond Burrel would restore the copse opposite to the lone isle, which, by an oversight in the contract when the

woods were last sold, the purchasers were not prohibited from destroying. The barren copse in this place did not spring, because it was old, and had not been disturbed for ages; the profit was trifling; and yet if it had been left, the Trosachs would have been covered with a mantle of green, not only to the south, but on the north, in every spot where the rock would suffer a shrub to find soil.

THE black rock dips into unfathomable water, and the hanging trees darken the gloomy recesses, whereby the horror of superstition suggested the idea of its being haunted by supernatural beings. It seems, however, to require no ghost or hobgoblin to render it awful to travellers passing that way, under cloud of night. Sailing from thence, many caps and bays are discovered, which escape observation by a walk on foot. On one hand, Benvenue, with a scowling cloud on his top, whose darkness renders the lake more gloomy and terrific: the angry spirit of the waters screams along the torrents that rush down his sides: or, whistling through the trees that overshadow the den of the ghost, skim along the margin of the deep. On the other hand, the naked Binean rears his bare and battered head to the clouds, and echoes to

the blast, which wheels around his base. Here the sand is washed white as hail-stone, by the continual agitation of the waves: there, the bushes sweep the surface of the water, and the dark rock is encrusted by the constant dropping which oozes from its top, and runs down its face. The scenery is so rich: the objects are so sublime: the variety so constant: that the highest taste for rude grandeur must be gratified in its fullest extent. Both by land and water, there are so many heights and hollows: so many glens, headlands, and islands: so many hanging trees, and shivered, shelving or pointed rocks, that it is impossible to advance twenty steps, without having the prospect continually changed, by the succession of new objects, while others are constantly retiring out of sight. The Trosachs beggar all description.

WHEN persons of an improved taste have been gratified by spending one day at Loch Catherine, and are anxious to explore the scenery of Lochearn, and the beauties of Duneira, &c. they proceed thither by the narrow pass of Leney, about two miles from CALLANDER, where the whole river Teith is so confined between rocks, that it forms a tumultuous cataract of a furlong

in length. The steepness of the precipice : the roaring of the waters : and the gloominess of the hanging trees, have a fine effect. About a mile further on, is the hermitage of St Bride, or Bridget, who gave name to many other cells in SCOTLAND.

“ Benledi saw the cross of fire :
It glanc'd like lightning up Strathyre.
A blythsome rout, that morning tide,
Had sought the chapel of Saint Bride.
Her troth, Tombea's Mary gave,
To Norman, heir of Arnadave ;
And issuing from the gothic arch,
The bridal now resumed their inarch,—
Who meets them at the church-yard gate ?
The messenger of fear and fate ;
The fatal sign of fire and sword
Held forth, and spoke the appointed word :
The muster place is Lanrick mead,
Speed forth the signal ! Norman, speed !
Yet slow he laid his plaid aside,
And, lingering, eyed his lovely bride,
Until he saw the starting tear
Speak woe he might not stop to cheer :
Then trusting not a second look,
In haste he sped him up the brook,
Nor backward glanced, till on the heath
Where Lubnaig's lake supplies the Teith.

THE windings of Lubnaig are very attractive. Close on the margin of the lake, the hunting seat of the late Mr Bruce makes its appearance, where he retired for

several summers to arrange his memorable travels to ABYSSINIA, for discovering the source of the Nile. Craig-na-Cohelig on the opposite side to Ardwhillary, is singular by its rude grandeur, which will bear a comparison with the formidable rocks of Glencoe. A little further on, we pass the new village of STRATHYRE, the houses of which are built with stone and lime, and likewise slated.

BEFORE we have gone any considerable distance from STRATHYRE, the *braes of Balquhiddy*, extending far to the southward, open upon us. The arable land rents at from five to fifteen shillings per acre (Scots) and the returns, with the utmost care, are but inconsiderable; the poor tenants being often obliged to fetch from the low country oats and oat-meal; which, together with potatoes, milk, and bad mutton, constitute most of their diet. Add to this, scarcity of fuel; and let us think how difficult it must be to live in so poor a country: yet here the smile of contentment brightens the human countenance; and the frankness and inquisitive disposition characteristic of the highlander, is in no small degree observable in the inhabitants of the *braes of Balquhiddy*.

ONE of the petty lairds of Balquhiddar, M'Laren, of Wester Inverneuty, narrowly escaped sharing the fate of many of his deluded countrymen who suffered at CARLISLE for the part they bore during the troubles in 1745. As a party of dragoons were conducting M'Laren to CARLISLE, in order to stand his trial as a rebel, just as they had ascended an eminence near MOLFAT, whence the rivers Tweed, Clyde and Annan originate, and descend in different directions, the former to the German ocean, and the two latter to the Atlantic, the prisoner requested permission to step aside, which was granted. M'Laren, observing his guard sauntering on, careless and inattentive to their duty, seized the favorable moment, tumbled heels over head from the top to the foot of the declivity, and ran off with astonishing swiftness. Favored by a fog, he gained a morass, into which he darted for safety, and soon discovered a hole whence peats had been dug, in which he immersed himself almost up to the neck, his head being covered with a turf. In this situation he remained till night fell, when he found his way across the country to the place where his wife lived, near his own property ; and, disguising himself as a woman, he continued unmolested till the act of indemnity

passed, which enabled him to shew his face without fear of danger.

LEAVING Balquhiddar, we turn to the right, and about two miles further on of excellent-made road, we come to Lochearn-head.

ON an elevated plat on the left, before we come within sight of Lochearn, we observe Edinchip, the residence of Miss Campbell. In the glen behind the house, there is a cave capable of containing fifty men under full armour. It was one of the hiding places of Robert Bruce, when he took shelter after the battle of METHVEN, and before he escaped to the western isles.

THE prospect of the lake from the inn of Lochearn-head, is by no means interesting at first sight; however, when properly thrown into a breadth of light and shade, by some casual stream of *floating light* illuminating certain portions of the landscape, so as to produce a happy effect, even from this point Lochearn becomes a fit subject for the pencil.

From Lochearn-head we proceed along the south border of the lake; and, excepting a view little varied from that seen

from the inn, we do not meet with much to engage the attention, till we come to the bridge over the Ample, a rapid mountain stream that runs through Glenample, a narrow, deep ravine winding among the mountains which rise on the right shores of Lochearn. At this bridge, on the left, the tomb of the Campbells of Monzie is to be seen; beneath which the fall of the Ample is heard, though it is yet unseen. On turning down, after passing the bridge, to the left, we command a view of this grand cascade, with all its accompaniments of rock, wood, &c. After brawling along its rocky bed, the Ample soon finds repose in the bosom of the lake, into which it falls at a very short distance from this spot.

We pass by the neat mansion of Ardvorlich, the family residence of Mr Stewart, whose ancestors have enjoyed the same spot for several hundred years back.

HAVING left the borders of Lochearn, about three miles from its east end, we enter on a scene so fantastically wild, fanciful, and truly charming, that no language is adequate to convey an idea of its singular beauty, and enchanting peculiarities, in regard to what is usually called romantic, when applied to uncommon

scenes in nature. The fairy scene alluded to is Movaiy, or, as it is now called, Duneira, amid which Lord Melville has erected a hunting-seat; than which few could be chosen with greater propriety.

PROCEEDING, we pass Dalchonzie and Aberuchil, situated amid the craggy heights skirted with natural wood that characterise the wilderness through which the Earn winds among this part of the Grampians. Soon after, we pass through the village of COMRIE, so often visited with shocks of earthquakes. On the north bank of the Earn is *Lawers house*, pleasantly situated, and well sheltered by aged elms, oaks, ashes, &c. behind which the mountains, clothed in russet hues empurpled with heath, and gilded with the bloom of whins and broom, luxuriantly waving, rise in sublime aspect. At Dulgincross are the remains of a Roman station or encampment.

DESCENDING the Earn, we soon come to the entrance of this district of the highlands, near which the town of CRIEFF or CROAI, is situated. This pass into the Grampians is characteristic and impressive. To the south-east of CRIEFF, stands Drummond castle, the seat of the ancient family

of PERTH. There are two Roman camps in the neighborhood, viz. one at ARDOCH, and the other at STRAGAITH. On the same banks of the Earn, the remains of the ancient seat of the Murrays of Tullibardine are to be seen; near which, according to Lindsay of Piscottie, the dimensions of the length and breadth of the *Great Michael*, “which was the greatest ship, and of most strength, that ever sailed in ENGLAND, or FRANCE,” were traced out, and “planted with hawthorn by the wright that helped to make her.”

WE pursue the windings of the Earn, and keep on the left the green hills of Ochil, at the foot of which KINCARDINE castle, the ancient seat of the Grahams (Montroses) is situated; and to the left, on the same side of the river, the village of AUCHTERAIRDER is at no great distance. We also pass through the parishes of Trinity Gask, and Gask, lying on both sides of the Earn, which for some miles appear well wooded and in the highest state of improvement. The Roman military way, which is kept pretty entire, runs through this part of the country, and leads to the camp near ARDOCH. There are also on the Gask estate two Roman camps; and along the causeway, vestiges of stations, most likely

Duplin Castle — Invermay — Forteviot.

for the accommodation of superintendants of repairs, are still visible.

ON the north bank of the Earn, the extensive woods and lawns belonging to the Earl of Kinnoul, round Duplin castle, are deserving of the usual praise bestowed on their beauty. The scene of action of the memorable battle fought on the 12th of August 1332, between Edward Baliol and the Earl of Mar, so fatal in its consequences to SCOTLAND, was near Duplin castle ; but the precise spot is unknown.

NEARLY opposite to Duplin on the south bank of the Earn, at a small distance from the church of FORTEVIOT, are the sequestered shades of *Invermay*, which gave rise to the pleasing lyric ballad, beginning "The smiling morn, the breathing spring." On the rivulet *May* are some water-falls, and scenery correspondent, worthy the attention of the traveller. The *Humble bumble*, as it is called, a deep and narrow chasm through which the water has wrought its passage, is among the most remarkable natural curiosities to be met with on the rural banks of this classic stream. FORTEVIOT was the chief residence of the Pictish monarchs during their sway in this part of the northern section of our island. Here,

according to Fordun, Kenneth died, anno 860. In the vicinity of this ancient abode of the Pictish monarchs, an ample field of research for the antiquary presents, which has hitherto been but imperfectly explored.

HAVING followed the beautiful windings of the Earn to PITKEATHLY WELLS, the virtues of which are highly extolled by such as resort to them for the benefit of their health, we soon come to the bridge of Earn ; and, excepting a few gentlemen's seats, nothing engages our attention till, about seven miles from KINROSS, we reach the *Wicks of Bigley*, an eminence overlooking STRATHEARN. On taking a retrospective view from this point, the beautiful vale of Earn forms one of the richest and most delightful prospects in SCOTLAND. It is at least thirty miles in length, bedecked by gentlemen's seats deeply imbowered, and subdivided into verdant inclosures of corn fields and fertile meadows, through which the Earn is seen meandering to the Tay, washing with their streams the fruitful shores of the Carse of Gowry.

A few miles from you, on your right, lies the ancient Pictish town of ABERNETHY ; and, should the day be clear, you can here, too, distinguish the Tay, become

a grand estuary, stretching eastward to DUNDEE, where, making a sudden turn, it retires behind the mountains.

TRAVELLING a few miles from this eminence, through a mountainous and barren country, we soon approach the environs and town of KINROSS.

KINROSS, the capital of the shire of that name, (the smallest shire in NORTH BRITAIN; being about ten miles long and nearly eight broad) is situated in an extensive level, on the north-west border of Lochleven, one of the very few lakes in the lowland districts of SCOTLAND. The appearance of the town itself is but mean: it is, however, delightfully situated on the margin of the lake, a fine sheet of water, bounded on the east and south by the Bonarty and Lomond hills, and on the north and west by the great plain of KINROSS, extending westward till it joins the beautiful vale of Devon, which stretches along the foot of the Ochil hills as far as STIRLING, a distance of nearly twenty-four miles in that direction. Lochleven is twelve miles in circumference. Besides the surrounding scenery, its islands add greatly to its picturesque beauty, and cannot fail to interest & please. The view from the bridge over the

South Quiech, a little way below the town, is perhaps the best that can be commanded by a traveller whose time will not permit him an excursion round the lake. The small islands scattered on its bosom give interest to the whole; and when circumstances connected with these small insulated spots are recalled to remembrance, they raise in the mind a pleasing association of mingled emotion. The prison of Mary Queen of Scots: the ancient priory of Lochleven: and Kinneswood, the birth-place of Michael Bruce, a poet whose talents burst forth under the heaviest pressure of indigence, and ill-health, and who, after living in deep retirement and hopeless obscurity, sunk into an early grave: are objects within view: and to each place its particular history is attached: so that the borders of Lochleven constitute part of the classic ground of the northern section of our island.

THE castle of Lochleven is of considerable antiquity. It is said to have been founded by Congal, a Pictish king, who made it a place of residence; but there is no date or inscription to inform us at what period it was first built. It is of a quadrangular form, turretted, and encompassed with a strong rampart. The small

Lochleven Castle.

island on which are its ruins (still in a state of preservation) hardly exceeds two English acres in extent. It is within a short distance of the north-west shore of the lake, where a promontary stretches toward it, on which the house of KINROSS is seen pleasantly situated amid wooded inclosures extending to the waters brink. In the rude times of the feudal system, this castle was one of the state prisons, as well as the residence of several of our Scottish monarchs. Cumyn with a band of his followers seized the person of Alexander III. and his Queen, and carried them prisoners to STIRLING, dismissing the king's faithful servants, and taking the management of state affairs into his own hands. Among the persons of note who have been prisoners in Lochleven castle were, the grandson of Robert III. Patrick Graham, Archbishop of ST ANDREWS; Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots; and the Earl of NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE archbishop of ST ANDREWS, Patrick Graham, first arch-prelate of that see, having in vain attempted a reformation in the lives of the clergy, fell under their insidious wiles, which, together with the machinations of those in power at court, led eventually to his degradation and ruin.

The malice and calumny of his enemies, particularly of the Boyds, and his successor William Shevey, caused him to be arrested and confined to his palace at ST ANDREWS, whence he was soon after removed to Inchcolme, next to DUNFERMLINE, and lastly to Lochleven castle, where he ended his days, “after an empty title of thirteen years, (says Keith) and was buried in St Servanus’s isle within the chapel.

THE Queen of Scots, Mary Stuart, was imprisoned in Lochleven castle on the 16th of June 1567. Soon after, she resigned the crown in favor of her son, her natural brother Murray being appointed regent. George Douglas, the youngest son of Sir Robert Douglas of Lochleven, having, in conjunction with a party of the Queen’s chosen adherents, formed a secret plan for Mary’s escape from confinement, effected the same on the 2d of May 1568; but, alas! to exchange that prison for one more distant, where, after eighteen years’ endurance of all the horrors of a close confinement, she ended her days on a scaffold.

* * * * *

“ Seest thou, Alexis, yonder verdant isle,
Far in the bosom of the lucid lake

Priory of Lochleven.

That on its margin bears a mould'ring pile
Where lonely eagles now their eyries make?
Shepherd, within those walls have mighty peers,
Beauties now long in dust, thro' dances led;
And yon green tree, moss grown, and dry with
years,
Once shaded MARY's lovely hapless head.
O ill-star'd queen!
Matchless in beauty as in woe!
Oft by musing fancy seen
Her spirit comes; while sad and slow
I wander here beneath the moon's pale beam,
And winds and murm'ring waters soothe my
dream."

THE priory of Lochleven (situated in an island called St Serf's, a little to the south-east of the castle) was founded by Brudeus, the last but one of the Pictish kings, in honor of St Servanus, "a monk or pilgrim, who, (says Spotiswood) it is reported, came from CANAAN to INCHKEITH, and got MERKINGLASS and CULROSS for his possessions." This monastery was afterwards annexed by David I. to the priory of St ANDREWS. "Our famous historian Andrew Winton was prior of this place. His history, which is in Scottish metre, is still extant in the Advocate's Library. It begins at the creation of the world, and concludes with the captivity of James I. in ENGLAND, during whose reign he died." This island contains about forty-eight Scottish acres, and is excellent for rearing black cattle.

THE monastery of Portmoak, founded by Eogusch King of the Picts, stood on the eastern border of Lochleven, on the north side of the Water of Leven, (so called from its being the outlet of the lake into the Frith of Forth) and was originally a cell belonging to the Culdees. It was consecrated to the Virgin Mary, and, in October 1570, was united to St Leonard's college, ST ANDREWS, by John Winram, then prior of Portmoak, and sub-prior of ST ANDREWS. This monastery is now almost completely demolished.

NOT far from the monastery, on the same side of the lake, on the north bank of the Water of Leven, the hospital of Scotland-well, (*Fons Scotiæ*) at the foot of the south Lomond, or Bishop's hill, was situated amid a number of springs remarkable for their purity, copiousness and quality : hence the name Scotland well. This hospital, or monastery, belonged to the order of Mathorites, or Red Friars. It was founded by William Malvoisine, bishop of ST ANDREWS, who died in 1238. His successor, David de Bernham, or Bertram, in 1250 gave to the Red Friars a third of his revenues, to be appropriated for the redemption of christian slaves from the

Lochleven.

infidels. The parish church of Moonzie on Carny hill near COUPAR, and that of Carnock near DUNFERMLINE, belonged to this monastery. The ruins of it are still to be seen near the village of Scotland-well.

OF the eminent men born on the banks of Lochleven, JOHN DOUGLAS of the family of Pittendrich, a Carmelite friar, next chaplain to the Earl of ARGYLE, and afterwards the first protestant Archbishop of ST ANDREWS in the year 1571, deserves particular mention. After being provost of the New College of ST ANDREWS, he was made rector during the minority of James VI. under the four regents. Near the church of Orwell stands the castle of Burleigh, once the family residence of the Balfours of Burleigh, many of whom were distinguished in their day as lawyers and statesmen.

MR JOHN MAIR, late rector of the PERTH academy, and author of many valuable school-books, was educated at the parish school of Portmoak; as was also MICHAEL BRUCE, the poet, already noticed, a native of Kinneswood in the immediate vicinity of Portmoak. Our poet was the fifth of eight children, the offspring of a poor but honest pair, viz. Alexander and Anne

Bruce. He was born on the 27th of March 1746, and died the 6th of July 1767. After he had gone through the elements of his early education at the school above-mentioned, he studied at the university of EDINBURGH for four years preparatory to entering into the church. During the summer months of recess from his academic pursuits, he composed the greater number of the poems collected and published since his death. It appears from his letters to a friend resident near the place of his birth, that he composed the beautiful descriptive poem, entitled, "Lochleven," during the summer of 1766, while in the humble capacity of school-master of Forest mill near CLACKMANNAN, "in the bleakest corner of the parish, living in a wretched hovel, and struggling under all the hardships of poverty," and a frail habit of body deep sunk in a rapid consumption, of which he soon after died. The following description by him, of the ruins of Lochleven castle, has been frequently quoted by tourists:

"No more its arches echo to the noise
Of joy and festive mirth; no more the glance
Of blazing taper through its windows beams,
And quivers on the undulating wave:
But naked stand the melancholy walls,
Lash'd by the wintry tempests, 'cold and bleak,

Lochleven.

And whistle mournfully through the empty hall,
And piecemeal crumble down the towers to dust.
Perhaps in some lone dreary desert tower
That time has spared, forth from the window
looks,

Half hid in grass, the solitary fox :
While from above, the owl, musician dire,
Screams hideous, harsh, and grating to the ear,
Equal in age, and sharers of its fate,
A row of moss-green trees around it stand ;
Scarce here and there upon their blasted tops,
A shrivelled leaf distinguishes the year."

LOCHLEVEN abounds with trout of a richness and delicacy rarely to be met with in any other part of the lowlands of SCOTLAND. They are called the *Galley trout* or *Char*. Some of them weigh from two to eight, and even ten pounds. They generally lie in deep water, and do not rise to any kind of fly, or hook, however baited. In the lake are the various species of trout found in almost every district of SCOTLAND, as is manifest from the variety of their appearance, shape, spots, &c. After their arrival in the waters of the lake, they become of a beautiful carnation colour when about the size of a herring, (weighing three quarters of a pound) which is in the third year of their growth. The silver-grey trout, with four or five spots on the middle of each side, is by far the richest in point of flavour and fatness : hence it is supposed

to be the native of the lake ; while it is pretty certain that the others come from the hills and moors around, and become of the colour of the native trout, from feeding, like them, on a species of shell-fish, of a globular shape and pink tinge, that abound among the aquatic productions at the lowest depths of the waters. Besides the trout, there are pike, perch, and a vast number of eels. In the month of September the eels begin to migrate towards the sea. The river Leven, the most considerable in FIFESHIRE, is the great outlet of the lake. When the eels begin to descend, the fishers spread their nets, and innumerable draughts are brought to land, This is done frequently during the night. But this fishing turns to little account, owing to the great prejudice entertained against the snake-like aspect exhibited by eels, especially such as arrive at an enormous size, which those caught in the Leven generally do.

A variety of wild fowls frequent Lochleven, such as wild ducks, wild geese, swans, herons, king's fisher, snipe, bittern, bat, water-rail, coot, gull, pewit, and great tern, or pitarnes.

THE state of agriculture in the neigh-

Kinross.

bourhood of KINROSS, is considerably on the advance. One of the chief hindrances to improvement is said to have been the small farms occupied by feuars, who contented themselves, after paying a trifling feu-duty, with merely rearing as much as would maintain themselves and cattle during the rigour of winter and in the spring: thus following the footsteps of their fathers, who, they supposed, enjoyed contentment and competency, the sum of all that is covetable in existence. But now other ideas prevail, and a different mode, before held at a distance, universally obtains in rural economy; and a spirit of industry, properly guided and directed, may make each *laird* of KINROSS still more independent by endeavoring to turn to the best account his few paternal acres.

THE houses in KINROSS and its immediate vicinity are rather mean in appearance, that of Mr Graham excepted. 'This' elegant edifice was built by Sir William Bruce, architect, in the year 1685, for his own family residence. It is among the earliest modern mansions erected north of the Tweed and Forth. Its great hall is fifty-two feet and a half long by twenty-four feet wide: the rest of the apartments are in proportion. The pleasure-grounds are

laid out to advantage, and their having the lake so near adds greatly to their beauty. Sir William Bruce drained the greater part of the ornamented grounds, which formerly were merely flow-moss.

A good road, through an improving country, will lead the traveller from KINROSS to the village of the CROOK OF DEVON. Passing through this village, we keep the river on our left for about a mile, and then descend along its rocky bed, when we soon approach the Falls of the Devon, the first of which, called the *Devil's Mill*, is heard, but not seen. This forms the least considerable of the falls. The Devon here falls into an excavation in the solid rock with a noise resembling that of water falling on a mill-wheel without ceasing; hence denominated the Devil's Mill. Near this spot is a cavern, named the *Pigeon's Cave*. About three hundred and fifty yards lower down the Devon, is a small arch, joining a deep and gloomy chasm, called the *Rumbling Brig*; so named from the hollow brawlings of the water in forcing its way among huge fragments of impending rocks; and as it hurries along, boiling and foaming in wildest tumult, the whole scenery adjacent is characteristic of that fantastic rudeness which nature delights in

Rumbling Brig.

exhibiting amid the roar of cascades and the thunder of cataracts. On looking down the devon from the bridge, a giddy height, the prospect beneath the eye is truly sublime. The high, projecting and impending precipices on either hand are wooded in all the capricious variety of form and ramification of hazel, willow, birch, and mountain ash; from among which, mid-way, along the craggy steeps, daws, kites, and other birds that delight in solitude, are seen sailing in security and freedom. The south bank of the Devon forms the middle ground, and a peep of the Saline hills closes in the distance. The whole is picturesque and magnificent.

IN order to command a view of the wooded cliffs over which the Rumbling Brig is thrown, it is necessary to come round by the south bank of the river. The best station is about a gun-shot from the brink of the water, on a gentle eminence immediately opposite the bridge. Here, then, the deep and gloomy chasm through which the Devon passes, is seen in one vast cleft, torn as it were, asunder by some terrible convulsion of nature. The small arch, half seen through the hanging branches that wave wildly over the face of the rugged steeps, gives an air of grandeur

suitable to the solemn dignity of the scene. Where the arch is thrown across, the banks are eighty-six feet above the water. The whole is striking and impressive.

FROM the Rumbling Brig to the *Caldron Linns* the Devon glides gently along; when, about a mile below the former, the bed of the river suddenly contracts its channel: as we approach the falls, the distant roar of the waters is imposing and awful. The upper fall is but inconsiderable, yet sufficient to arrest the attention. Soon after comes into view the chasm through which the river boils and foams from caldron to caldron, for such are the circular excavations called which the incessant workings of the waters, in the course of so many ages have caused: it is terminated by a precipice almost perpendicular, over which the whole force of the Devon issues forth in a vast and powerful stream, and suddenly disappears. The thunder of its fall is tremendous. The solid rocks seem to tremble to their centre; and the mind is absorbed in mingled emotions of wonder, admiration, and pleasing terror. The height of the rock is eighty-eight feet, and the fall forty-four.

DESCENDING to the bottom of the fall,

Caldron Linn.

we once more contemplate the glories of this sublime scene in a more picturesque point of view. Having come round by the foot of the south bank of the river, and having crossed it in front of the precipice through which the water gushes forth, we command a complete view of the great fall of the Devon. A stupendous pile of solid rocks over which in one full, rapid and powerful torrent, the river precipitates itself, presents its rugged front. Fragments lie widely scattered in every direction, that from time to time were torn from the face of the craggy steep; the excavations of which, worn by many a raging flood in the lapse of ages, exhibit an awful aspect in fine harmony with the rude and fantastic forms of the deep and wooded dell through which the Devon, as if tired of exertion, seeks silence and repose, in its route to gain the windings of the Forth near STIRLING.

A few years ago, at the Caldron Linn, the following curious circumstance happened. A pack of hounds were eagerly pursuing a fox; the animal led them along the banks of the Devon till he came to the boiling caldron, there he crossed; but in attempting to follow him, and not being probably so well acquainted with the path,

the dogs fell one after another into the caldron, and were dashed to pieces against the sides. This fact contributed not a little to confirm the reputation of Reynard for cunning and sagacity in the minds of the spectators.

PURSUING the course of the river, we arrive at the village of DOLLAR, above which, on a high and almost insulated rock, are the ruins of *Castle Gloom*. The spot on which this castle is situated, appears peculiarly wild and inaccessible. The ruins are seen somewhat retired from the rugged steep, lofty and wooded, on either side of which mountain streams descend and unite at its base, brawling among massy fragments of rock. A range of hills, wooded on either hand, rising from the bed of the united stream, almost encompasses the rocky peninsula on which the ruins of the castle appear. Immediately behind, a vast amphitheatre of hill, beautifully sloping, and verdant to the top, adds grandeur to the scene.

ON ascending the wooded heights to the ruins of Castle Gloom, looking toward the south, on the vale of Devon, beyond which are the Forth, STIRLING Castle, CLACKMANNAN tower, the hills that stretch

Castle Campbell.

from the Friths of Forth and Clyde and the adjacent country, a range of vast extent, form one of the finest prospects any where to be seen. The ruins of Castle Gloom, together with the wooded banks of each side, form a picturesque ground.

CASTLE GLOOM (or Castle Campbell) is a place of considerable antiquity. At what period it was first built is uncertain. It appears from charters belonging to the family of ARGYLE, that the lordship of Campbell, on which the castle stands, was in possession of that family as far back as the year 1465; and in 1493, by act of the Scottish parliament, the name of Castle Gloom was changed to Castle Campbell, by which name it is now generally known. At the æra of the reformation, Archibald the fourth Earl of ARGYLE was the first of our Scottish nobility who publicly renounced the doctrines of the church of ROME. Here, it is said, in the gloomy solitude of this strong-hold, the arch-reformer John Knox passed some time in domestic intercourse with this high-minded, independent assertor of the new opinions, for which many of his name sacrificed their lives, glorying in the cause of liberty and religion, such as they deemed pure and genuine.

In the year 1664, during the unhappy

reign of our first Charles, Castle Campbell was burnt to the ground by the Marquis of MONTROSE, who had espoused the royal cause; since which period it has remained in ruins. The tower is still pretty entire; but the other parts of the buildings are rapidly hastening to total ruin. The castle when entire was completely insulated with a fosse, that joined the inaccessible parts of the deep glen over which this precipice impends, near the brink of which there is a secret stair cut out of the solid rock down to the rivulet, more than a hundred feet from top to bottom, and about six feet wide, called *Kemp's Score*, or *Suit*. This passage was for the purpose of procuring water, it is supposed, during a siege. The steps are now almost invisible, owing to their being filled up with earth. The passage is truly frightful to look down into, and one feels little inclination to examine its curious construction.

ABOUT 10 miles, south, from the village of DOLLAR, lies DUNFERMLINE, formerly the seat of royal and ecclesiastical splendour. It is built on a rising eminence, commanding, in every direction, a wide range of grand and interesting prospects. The hill on which this town is situated, is about three miles from the sea, and one

Dunfermline.

hundred and ninety feet above the level of the Forth, the windings of which, from the foot of the Grampians to the German ocean, a stretch of more than eighty miles from east to west, are seen from the tower steeple. The approach to DUNFERMLINE from the south, is truly picturesque. The ruins of the monastery and palace form the most interesting feature of the landscape. These hang over a beautiful wooded glen, deep and narrow, through which a rivulet rapidly runs, which being joined by a small tributary rill that is collected from springs in the neighborhood, is conducted through the streets, and, after supplying by its force several mills built on the steep side of this dell, falls into the *Lyne* or brook, beneath the mouldering walls of the abbey. This monastery was begun by Malcolm III. (surnamed Canmore) and was finished by Alexander I. (surnamed the Fierce). David I. erecting it into an abbey, brought hither from CANTERBURY, in the year 1124, thirteen monks of the order of Benedictines, or Black monks. The ruins of this monastery are now in the last stage of their decline: the great window of the Frater-hall, however, is still in tolerable preservation. The church and monastery have not suffered more by time than by the ruthless hand of

the invader and of religious fanaticism. In 1303, when Edward I. wintered at DUNFERMLINE, the English soldiers utterly destroyed this magnificent fabric. What the soldiery spared the reformers demolished, namely, the cells of the monks, a race of drones particularly obnoxious to the multitude. The south-west wall of the palace still remains a monument of the magnificent fabric of which it is a part, and tradition continues to point out the chimney of the apartment where the unfortunate monarch Charles I. was born. Pennant and Grose both say, but do not mention on what authority, that Anne of DENMARK, mother of Charles I. rebuilt the palace of DUNFERMLINE. A house adjoining the palace built for Queen Anne of DENMARK, which within these some years was habitable, may have led to this mistake. The nuptial bed of this Queen is now in the possession of the Earl of ELGIN: it is of walnut-tree, and of curious workmanship very neatly carved. The Queen's *ambrie*, or cabinet, made of the same kind of wood, and of similar workmanship, is in the possession of a private family in DUNFERMLINE. The church of DUNFERMLINE is still pretty entire. It was built by Malcolm III. already mentioned. It is lofty and capacious; and part of it is still occupied as a place of worship. The

royal cemetery, said to contain eight kings, is now a heap of rubbish, to the depth of several feet; and vulgar dust has long been laid on the poor remains of our Scottish monarchs. The tomb-stone of St Margaret with six other flat stones, are still shewn to strangers as relics of royalty. But what will attract most notice is the late Earl of ELGIN's monument, the inscription on which is composed in a style of elegance and simplicity rarely to be met with.

Mr George Chalmers, late of Pittencrieff, one of the first characters for public spirit, has exhibited a lasting monument of of utility, by throwing a bridge, or arched conduit, over the rivulet that runs through the glen on the west side of DUNFERMLINE, which bridge is 297 feet in length, 12 feet in breadth, and 15 feet 5 inches in height. The remaining hollow on both sides of this arch is filled up with an earthen mound to the height of nearly seventy feet at the centre; and over the arch the road is conducted, on each side of which, houses forming a street have been erected. This bridge was begun in 1767, finished in 1770, and cost Mr Chalmers the sum of £.5000 sterling. This town was erected.

into a royal burgh in May 1588, by James VI.

As an instance of ingenuity in the art of weaving, a shirt wrought in the loom, completely finished and ready for wearing, made about a century ago by an ingenious artisan of this place of the name of Inglis, and still preserved in the chest of the corporation of weavers, deserves particular mention. It is without a seam, and, excepting the neck button, was completed without the assistance of a needle.

DUNFERMLINE has long been celebrated for its sanctity, especially a strict observance of the *Lord's Day*. An instance of this occurred in the autumn of 1796, when two gentlemen were travelling through this town on a picturesque excursion to Glendevon, STIRLING, &c. One of them thought it no harm to take his station about a quarter of a mile below the town, in order to take a sketch of its abbey, church, &c.: but no sooner had he pulled out his sketch book, and sharpened his lead pencil, than the police officers with two attendants made their appearance, and challenged the strangers for breaking the *Sabbath*, telling them at the same time, that had it not been that they were unacquainted with the

regulations of the town, they would most certainly have been taken into custody and brought before the magistrates. The gentlemen very prudently thanked their monitors, and quietly withdrew, leaving DUNFERMLINE without farther violating its immaculate sanctity and *beauty of holiness*.

FROM DUNFERMLINE to TORRYBURN, a sea-port town, is only a short distance. Its shipping amounts to about a thousand tons: consequently, its trade at home or abroad is but inconsiderable.

CULROSS, the next sea-port town, stands on the north bank of the Forth, rising with a gentle inclination to a considerable eminence fronting the south-west. Immediately above the town is the church, adjacent to which are the remains of the abbey of CULROSS, or *Kyllenross*, founded in the year 1217 by Malcolm Earl of FIFE. The church was dedicated to St Serf the confessor, (*Sanctus Servanus*). St Mungo, his disciple, had a chapel dedicated to him, the relics of which are seen near the harbour of CULROSS. St Servanus lived in a hermitage in the place where afterwards the monastery was erected. He performed many miracles about this part of the coun-

try: in particular, he raised two persons from the dead.

In Tillicovltry till a wyf
Two sonys he raiset frae ded to lyf.

But his most extraordinary miracle was performed on the occasion of the theft of a favorite ram that was accustomed to accompany the saint. The thief, on suspicion, was brought to the saint; but having denied the crime, the ram, which he had killed and eaten, bleated out of his belly, and thereby convicted him of the offence. The story is thus told:

This holy man had a ram
That he had fed up of a lam;
And oysit him to follow ay,
Quherever he passit in his way.
A theyf this sheppe in Ackan stal,
And et him up in pecis smalle.
Quhen Sanct Serf his ram had myst,
Quha that it stal was few that wist;
On presumption nevertheles
He that it stal arestyt was;
And til Sanct Serf syne was he broucht,
That scheppe he said that he stal noucht;
And therefore for to swer an athe
He said that he walde nocht be laythe;
But sone he werthit red for schayme,
The scheppe that bletyt in his wayme;
Swa was he tynctyt schaymfully
And at Sanct Serf askyt mercy.

Culross.

IN the immediate vicinity of CULROSS are several old family residences. What is now called the abbey of CULROSS is the family seat of Lord Dundonald; it was built in the year 1590, by Edward Lord Bruce of Kinloss. Its front is to the south, and it is turretted at each end, which gives it an air of antiquity and grandeur, by no means uninteresting. Farther west is Castle-hill, formerly called *Dunnemarle castle*, in which, it is said, Macbeth ordered Macduff's wife and children to be murdered. The castle is now completely in ruins. A little to the west-ward of Castle-hill is Blair castle, the residence of Robert Dundas, esquire. This mansion was built by Archbishop Hamilton of ST ANDREWS but a little time previous to the reformation. Near the creek of KINCARDINE, close in on the river, are the ruins of the castle of Tullialin. In short, the situation of CULROSS and the places adjacent present to the eye a most pleasing and picturesque assemblage of objects in every direction; but this is contrasted with decay and poverty, particularly in the town itself.

CULROSS is a royal burgh, and, in conjunction with STIRLING, DUNFERMLINE, INVERKEITHING and South QUEEN'S-FERRY, sends a representative to parliament. It

was erected into a burgh of barony in 1484, when John Hog was abbot of CULROSS abbey, and into a royal burgh by James VI. in 1588. There are some military antiquities in the neighborhood. The remains of some Danish camps of an oval form are still in a state of preservation, as are also those of some stations which were occupied by Scottish armies in remote times.

THIS place was formerly noted for making of girdles, a culinary utensil of great importance in the *Land o' Cakes*. By royal grants in the reign of James VI. and his grandson Charles II. the girdle-smiths of this place had the exclusive privilege of manufacturing of girdles; but this monopoly was forbid, in 1727, by the court of Session, since which period girdle-making has declined here, and is now almost extinct; as that article is manufactured much cheaper at Carron iron-works.

THE last abbot of CULROSS abbey was Alexander, son of Sir James Colvil of Ochiltree. Sir James Colvil, (says Spottiswood) brother to the said Alexander, was raised to the dignity of Lord Colvil of CULROSS in the year 1604, at the time the King made him a grant of this dissolved abbey. Of this lord was descended Samuel

Colvil of CULROSS, the author of the Scottish Hudibras, or “ Mock Poem, or Whig’s Supplication ;” LONDON, printed 1681.

“ Samuel was sent to France,
To learn to sing and dance
And play upon a fiddle :
Now he’s a man of great esteem ;
His mother gat him in a dream
At Culross on a girdle.”

These lines allude to the mother of our poet, author of “ Ane godly Dream compyled by Elizabeth Melvil, Lady CULROSS younger, at the Request of a Friend. Printed by the Heirs of Andrew Anderson in the year 1680.”

PROCEEDING from CULROSS to CLACKMANNAN a distance of 7 miles, we pass, about half-way, the village of KINCARDINE, pleasantly situated on the north bank of the Forth. Leaving KINCARDINE we soon approach CLACKMANNAN, the county town of the shire to which it gives its name. Though beautifully situated on a gently rising eminence, on which the ancient tower of the Bruces appears the most striking object, overlooking the rich and extensive plain through which the Forth winds its waters from the Grampian mountains to the sea : yet the wretched appear-

ance of the houses, with hardly an exception, forms a striking contrast to the beauty and grandeur of the scenery around it.

THE old tower of CLACKMANNAN merits attention. The large square tower is called Robert Bruce's tower. His two-handed sword and helmet were not long ago preserved here. When CLACKMANNAN first belonged to the Bruces is uncertain. There is a charter quoted by Douglas as early as the time of David II. dated the 9th of December 1359, wherein that King grants to Sir Robert Bruce (whom he therein styles his dearly beloved relation) the castle and manor of CLACKMANNAN, with divers other lands lying within the sheriffdom of CLACKMANNAN. The royal family of Bruce terminated in a female, who by marriage transferred the crown to the steward of SCOTLAND, giving rise to the royal family of Stuart. According to the ancient notion of clanship, the chief was always the nearest male representative, and Bruce of CLACKMANNAN, by the failure of the male line in the royal family of Bruce, became chief of the Bruces. Henry Bruce, esq. last laird of CLACKMANNAN, died in 1772, leaving no male representatives: and it is now considered as a question of much difficulty, though perhaps of

little importance, whether the Earl of ELGIN or Bruce of Kennet is now the chief of that race. The widow of the last laird of CLACKMANNAN died in 1791 at the age of ninety-five. She had in her possession a helmet and a sword of a monstrous size, both said to have been used by King Robert Bruce at the battle of BANNOCKBURN. Both of these she bequeathed to the Earl of ELGIN. Adjoining to the old tower of CLACKMANNAN is the house in which the family resided till the direct line became extinct. Both the tower and this old mansion are rapidly falling into ruins.

THE houses of Kennet and Tillibodie also deserve notice. Sir Ralph Abercrombie, whose fall in EGYPT excited such general national interest, was proprietor of Tillibodie, which he derived from his father. This family was uncommonly fortunate. During the life of the father, the eldest son attained to high command, and the first degree of popularity, as a British officer in EUROPE: the second son, general Sir Robert Abercrombie, was governor of BOMBAY, and commander in chief of the forces in BENGAL; and the third son, Lord Abercrombie, was a senator of the college of justice in SCOTLAND.

THE situation of ALLOA, which is only about two miles from CLACKMANNAN, is truly pleasant. The name, like most other places, has been variously spelt. In the charter granted by King Robert, in the 9th year of his reign, (anno 1315) to Thomas de Erskyne, it is spelt ALWAY, and, in some subsequent ones, AULWAY, AULEWAY, and sometimes ALLOWAY. Camden, in his Britannia, seems to think it the Alauna of the Romans. He says, "Ptolmey places Alauna somewhere about STERLING; and it was either upon Alon, a little river that runs here into the Forth, or at ALWAY a seat of the Erskines.

THE harbour is good, and there is safe anchorage for vessels of considerable burden immediately at the entrance of it. The depth of water in this harbour is three feet and a half more than in the harbour of LEITH, notwithstanding that the latter is upwards of seventeen miles nearer the sea. At spring tides the water rises from seventeen to twenty-two feet; and there is at all times a depth of from twelve to fifteen feet.

ACCORDING to returns made some years ago, the shipping belonging to ALLOA amounted to 7241 tons, which affords con-

Alloa.

stant employment for five hundred seamen. The staple commodity is coal, in which trade the greater number of the vessels are engaged. For the size of the place, the export and import trade is considerable, and was principally carried on with GERMANY, HOLLAND, DENMARK, NORWAY, &c. The exports chiefly consist of coal and glass bottles. The imports are iron, flax, linseed, grain, wood, &c.

THE branches of manufacture at ALLOA, are glass bottles, bricks and tiles, and tanning of leather. Formerly, there was a pretty considerable manufactory for tobacco. Camblets, too, used to be manufactured here, and sent to the English market, whence they came back to this country, to be retailed to the natives at an advanced price! The making of narrow and broad cloths has recently been introduced on a small scale. A small iron-foundry and other iron works have been established for some time back. The ingenious family of the Meikles, engineers and mill-wrights, well known for their inventions in machinery have long been settled here.

THE coal mines of ALLOA have been wrought ever since the year 1623. For-

merly, the miners were a rude, immoral set of beings, and were held in perpetual slavery : within these forty years, however, an emancipation has, in some degree, taken place ; and, their children having learned to read and write, a remarkable change in their manners and mode of living has ensued. The worthy representative of the Erskines of Mar, who is the principal proprietor of ALLOA, has bestowed great benefit to bring about this happy event, and it is but justice to acknowledge, that in every thing which regards the comfort and condition of those around him, he takes an active and useful part.

AGRICULTURE around ALLOA has made rapid advances within the last twenty years. The spirit of improvement, extending in every direction, shews itself in all manner of rural economy. Plowing matches were first instituted in the neighborhood of ALLOA, by HUGH REOCH of the Hiltoun, a spirited and enterprising farmer, in the year 1784 ; since which period, they have been adapted throughout SCOTLAND, and in many parts of ENGLAND. But one circumstance, singular in its nature, and characteristic in no small degree of a narrow spirit of unaccountable prejudice, deserves particular remark. Alexander

Vertue, a farmer's servant, who gained the chief prize at the first ploughing match, was, in 1793, sent for to his Majesty's farm at WINDSOR, in order to instruct the persons employed there in the art of ploughing. The Scottish ploughman began his operations in the royal presence, and obtained the smile of approbation and regard. It was frankly confessed by every one, that, in point of excellence, no such ploughing had before been seen in that part of the country. Next morning, however, instead of Vertue resuming his work, he was ordered "not to go near the King's farm at WINDSOR, *on any account whatever*, nor have the smallest intercourse with his Majesty's farm servants." Thus was this ingenious stranger dismissed without further ceremony; and, after receiving some consideration for a journey of four hundred and thirty miles, loss of time, &c. he was permitted to return to SCOTLAND.

AFTER a course of seven miles, west, from ALLOA, the tourist will no doubt be agreeably surprised to find himself again in the ancient town of STIRLING.

